

## Co-sponsored Symposia Resolutions

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## Resolutions approved in 2026

Good practices in data-limited fisheries assessment and management: A joint Center for the Advancement of Population Assessment Methodology (CAPAM), ICES, and Our Common Oceans Program symposium (TBD January 2027)

### Resolution Form: Symposium



Before completing this resolution form, please review the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#). Once approved, all resolution information on this form will be made publicly available on the ICES website.

#### Resolution Term (yyyy-mm-dd)

Start date is date of submission of the resolution form. End date is December 31 of the symposium year.

**Start Date:** 2026-02-01

**End Date:** 2027-12-31

#### Symposium Title (character limit: 280)

Good practices in data-limited fisheries assessment and management: A joint Center for the Advancement of Population Assessment Methodology (CAPAM), ICES, and Our Common Oceans Program symposium

#### Symposium Conveners (maximum 5 individuals)

Full Name	Institute	Email	Country
Anne Cooper	ICES	anne.cooper@ices.dk	ICES
Wendell Medeiros-Leal	ICES	wendell.medeiros-leal@ices.dk	Denmark
Jason Cope	NOAA	jason.cope@noaa.gov	USA
Dan Ovando	IATTC	dovando@iattc.org	USA
Mark Maunder	IATTC	mmaunder@iattc.org	USA

#### Symposium Website URL (if known)

<https://www.capamresearch.org/#:~:text=The%20Center%20for%20the%20Advancement%20of%20Population,Producing%20competent%20researchers%20and%20stock%20assessment%20scientists>

**Scientific Justification (character limit: 1500)**

Describe the aims, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of the symposium and the relevance of the symposium to the ICES [Science](#), [Advisory](#), and/or [Strategic](#) Plans

Successful fisheries management depends on reliably measuring stock status relative to agreed reference points. However, such quantitative estimates remain unavailable for most of the world's fisheries. Within ICES alone, around 60% of the 272 fish and shellfish stocks for which advice is provided are considered data-limited. In this context, data-limited assessment (DLA) methods have expanded rapidly as practical tools over the last decade, and ICES WKLIFE has become one of the leading global venues for their development. In parallel, CAPAM has been instrumental in advancing stock assessment science worldwide. CAPAM workshops have generated foundational scientific publications and defining good practices in stock assessment, though these efforts have focused primarily on data-rich contexts. As the use of DLA methods, including length-based, catch-only, and indicator-based methods, have expanded, guidance on data needs, assumptions, and method suitability remains fragmented. A joint ICES-CAPAM symposium offers a unique opportunity to unite two of the world's leading communities in stock assessment development. By combining ICES operational experience in delivering DLA advice with CAPAM's strong track record in methodological synthesis, the symposium will create coherent good practices for DLAs. Expected outcomes include a consolidated review of method performance, updated guidance for implementation, and recommendations aligned with ICES Science and Advisory Plans, strengthening evidence-based management of data-limited fisheries.

**Symposium Dates (yyyy-mm-dd)****Start Date:** January 2027**End Date:** January 2027

Venue (e.g. conference centre, hotel)	Format (in-person, virtual, hybrid)	Expected Number of Participants
Exploring options to collaborate with ICES ASC, WKLIFE, or other opportunity	In-person	60-100

City/Town	Country
TBD	ICES Member Country

**Comments on dates, timeline, venue, location, and participants (character limit: 500)**

For example, if any of the symposium details are tentative, provide potential timeline dates (month/year of abstract submission, registration, etc.), expected duration (number of days), venue[s] and location[s] under consideration

In previous iterations, CAPAM has been a 3 day workshop. Under the Our Common Oceans Program Deep-sea Fisheries Project, ICES, UN FAO, and CAPAM have been working together to collaborate on this upcoming data-limited CAPAM symposium. CAPAM experts, reached out to ICES staff (Anne and Wendell) with the proposal to co-convene this next data-limited CAPAM. We would like to work with ICES leadership and experts to find a date and location that works well for the ICES calendar and CAPAM. Autumn 2026 would be ideal for CAPAM, and it aligns well with the ICES budget under the Deep-sea fisheries project where there is some financing for this activity, but we are also looking for early career scientist support—hence the flexibility for 2027.

#### **Symposium Programme (character limit: 1500)**

Briefly describe the symposium programme, including any pre- or post-symposium workshops, training, early career activities, and other coordinated events

The joint ICES-CAPAM symposium will centre on a three-day scientific programme combining keynote presentations, contributed talks, and structured discussions focused on good practices in DLAs and management. The meeting will cover key methodological themes, including length-based, catch-only, integrated and close-kin mark-recapture approaches, as well as data-limited management strategies. Following the main event, a one- to two-day practical workshop will allow attendees to apply insights to selected case-study datasets, building hands-on experience with methods presented during the symposium. Dedicated early careers activities, including mentoring, an EC convener’s group, will promote capacity development and broader engagement. The symposium will generate a suite of coordinate outputs, including training material, recorded presentations, and openly accessible software and analysis workflows hosted in an open access online repository. A synthesis at the end of the symposium will outline key recommendations and support the development of a special issue in *Fisheries Research*, as in previous CAPAM workshops. The programme is designed to strengthen global good practices in data-limited assessment by leveraging ICES operational leadership and CAPAM expertise in methodological development.

#### **Acronym[s] of ICES Working Groups, Strategic Initiatives, Steering Groups, Operational Groups, and other groups contributing to the symposium (optional)**

ACOM, SCICOM

FRSG -- including WKLIFE, WGMG, all stock assessment WGs (e.g. HAWG, WGDEEP, WGNEPH, WGNAS, WGBFAS, NWWG, WGCSE, WGNSSK, WGEF, WGWIDE)

Our Common Oceans Program Deep-sea Fisheries Project [Letter of Agreement](#) between ICES and UN FAO (including two ICES workshops on methods for deep-sea species)

#### **Contributions by ICES representatives (character limit: 1500)**

It is expected that scientists affiliated to ICES working groups and Secretariat professional staff are included in the scientific steering committee and represented in the organizing committee of co-sponsored symposia and, where necessary, for endorsement-only symposia (see Section 2.1, [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#)).

Please provide the following additional information: How will ICES representatives contribute to the planning and organization of the symposium? Members of the ICES community may, for instance, act as conveners or session chairs; serve on the planning board, scientific committee, or organizing committees; and assist with the selection of plenary speakers, awards recipients, or early career support.

Additionally, if ICES representatives are already involved in the symposium, please provide this information.

ICES representatives will contribute to the planning and organization of the symposium in three ways.

ICES staff and ICES project consultants

1. Under the [Letter of Agreement](#) between ICES and UN FAO, ICES staff (Anne Cooper) and the ICES Consultant on the Our Common Oceans Program Deep-sea Fisheries Project LoA (Wendell Medeiros-Leal) have funding to support attendance and participation in an international conference on data-limited methods. ICES staff and ICES experts have participated in previous CAPAM meetings.

Anne Cooper is the Professional Officer working with WKLIFE, and through her work as a Professional Officer (no closing date) or under the Letter of Agreement work (closing 31 January 2027), Anne is available to represent ICES in the scientific steering committee or organizing committee.

2. ICES experts in CAPAM organizing committee

Jason Cope (NOAA), Mark Maunder (IATTC), Andre Punt (NOAA), and Rishi Sharma (UN FAO) are members of the CAPAM organizing committee and they are ICES experts.

3. ICES expert community members have been involved in previous CAPAMs and are likely to engage as keynote speakers, presenters, and participants. We expect interest from the ICES community to increase for an ICES-CAPAM event. The list of previous CAPAM participants includes ACOM members, ICES staff, benchmark reviewers and chairs, WKLIFE members, and stock assessment expert group members and chairs.

#### **Resource Request (character limit: 1500)**

Before completing this section, conveners should read the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#) : particularly sections 1.2 and 1.3, which outline the types of financial, coordination, and technical support that ICES can provide. The support options depend on whether you are seeking ICES co-sponsorship or only its endorsement.

Please list all items requested of ICES in support of the symposium. Include specifics of any financial request, assistance with early career support applications, symposium registration, advertising, website, plans to use the ICES logo, etc. Clearly identify and describe requests that will require ICES Secretariat to commit time and staff – e.g., coordination, meeting documents, agenda, programmes, technical support, on-site participation, etc. – so ICES can accurately assess its ability to fulfil the requests.

We are requesting full support for the symposium at this time, see below, but it is anticipated that in-kind support will be provided by associated institutions as planning progresses.

- Financial support. ICES co-funding for symposia is earmarked to support the participation of early career scientists (up to 10 000 euros per symposium);
- The opportunity to apply for a special issue of ICES Journal of Marine Science as an outlet for the publication of the proceedings;
- Secretariat assistance with other ad hoc tasks<sup>1</sup>;
- Provision of ICES logo for use on symposium materials;
- Promoting the symposium through ICES social media channels;
- ICES provision of early career scientists workshops and events; and
- Secretariat staff on site during the symposium to present, convene, run workshops, or assist in other tasks<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> If held before 31 January 2027, there would be some financial and in kind support from the ICES LoA with UN FAO.

#### **Additional Funding Sources/Sponsors (character limit: 1500)**

List all current, pending, and to-be-requested support from other sources: businesses, universities, national funds, etc. Please note that no information on funding is needed for endorsement-only requests.

Symposium organizers are currently in discussions with home institutions for funding. An estimated total budget of 40,000 USD is currently estimated.

Name	Description	Amount
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Honorariums	Payments to keynote speakers	\$10,000 (USD)
Scholarships	Travel scholarships	\$10,000 (USD)
Facilitation	Refreshments, transportation, site logistics	\$10,000 (USD)
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$30,000 (USD)</b>

### Plans for Publication of the Proceedings

Specify potential publication outlet[s] below. For specific information on publishing proceedings in the ICES Journal of Marine Science (IJMS), refer to section 2.5 and Annex 4 of [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#).

- Publication intended (specify): Fisheries Research and ICES Journal
- No publication intended

## General Information

### Resolution Status (select one)

**New resolution**

This resolution has not been previously approved by the Advisory Committee (ACOM), Science Committee (SCICOM), and/or ICES Council

**Amendment to an approved resolution**

This is a change to a currently active resolution that has been approved previously. Common amendments include changes to conveners, updates to symposium dates or venue, and term extensions following unavoidable delays.

### One-Sentence Summary (character limit: 280)

Describe the main purpose of this resolution in plain language that can be readily understood by non-experts. Use the active voice and avoid jargon. This summary will be used on the ICES website and social media channels.

The joint ICES–CAPAM symposium brings global experts together to develop practical and accessible tools that improve how data-limited fisheries are assessed and managed worldwide.

**ICES Advisory Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)**

**Priority 1:** Assuring quality

**Priority 2:** Process innovation and efficiency

**ICES Science Plan Themes (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)**

**Priority 1:** Emerging techniques and technologies

**Priority 2:** Conservation and restoration science

**Additional Comments (character limit: 500) (optional)**

Restrict comments to those that are required to understand and review this resolution and for which there is no existing box on the form (e.g. request for a special resolution term duration)

Anne Cooper has been in conversations for over two years with CAPAM and UN FAO about ICES co-convening this data-limited CAPAM symposium as part of my work with the project and WKLIFE. Yesterday, we have received the formal CAPAM Concept Note for the symposium, and the request to co-convene. As not to delay further our request for an ICES symposium, we are submitting the request now, in its current state. We (Anne and CAPAM organizers) welcome the opportunity to work with ICES leadership to discuss a venue and date that works well for ICES and CAPAM.

**Geographic Focus (select at least one)**

**Non-Geospecific**

Select this option when the resolution is not closely focused on a specific geographic region. For instance, symposia focused on techniques or processes typically fall under ‘non-geospecific’.

ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions	Areas outside ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions
<input type="checkbox"/> Adriatic Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Sea (FAO area 18)
<input type="checkbox"/> Aegean-Levantine Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Antarctic (FAO area 48)
<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Ocean	<input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Eastern Central (FAO area 34)
<input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northeast (FAO area 27)	<input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northwest (FAO area 21)
<input type="checkbox"/> Azores	<input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southeast (FAO area 47)

<input type="checkbox"/> Baltic Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southwest (FAO area 41)
<input type="checkbox"/> Barents Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Western Central (FAO area 31)
<input type="checkbox"/> Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Antarctic and Southern (FAO area 58)
<input type="checkbox"/> Black Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Eastern (FAO area 57)
<input type="checkbox"/> Celtic Seas	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Western (FAO area 51)
<input type="checkbox"/> Faroes	<input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean and Black Sea (FAO area 37)
<input type="checkbox"/> Greater North Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Antarctic (FAO area 88)
<input type="checkbox"/> Greenland Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Eastern Central (FAO area 77)
<input type="checkbox"/> Icelandic Waters	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northeast (FAO area 67)
<input type="checkbox"/> Ionian Sea and the Central Mediterranean Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northwest (FAO area 61)
<input type="checkbox"/> Norwegian Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southeast (FAO area 87)
<input type="checkbox"/> Oceanic Northeast Atlantic	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southwest (FAO area 81)
<input type="checkbox"/> Western Mediterranean Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Western Central (FAO area 71)

#### Close Links to Other Organizations (where relevant)

Select scientific cooperation, agreements, partnerships, or other close links from the list below. Other links can be specified at the bottom of this table, but please restrict your list to pertinent organizations that are closely associated with this resolution.

No close links to other organizations

#### United Nations Organizations and Programmes

- European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- International Sea bed Authority (ISA)
- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- UN Environment (UNEP)
- UN Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC)

**European Commission and its Agencies**

- European Commission (EC)
- European Environment Agency (EEA)
- European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)
- Joint Research Council (JRC)
- Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs)
- Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT)

**Regional Fisheries Organisations and Management Organizations (RFOs/RFMOs)**

- General Fisheries Commission in the Mediterranean (GFCM)
- International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
- North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO)
- North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)
- Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)

**Regional Sea Conventions**

- Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM)
- Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)

**Arctic Networks**

- Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)
- Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)
- International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)
- Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment Working Group (PAME)

**Scientific Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)**

- Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM)
- North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO)
- North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)

**Other**

- European Aquaculture Society (EAS)
- Integrated Marine Biosphere Research project (IMBeR)

Other organizations not listed above (if relevant)	
CAPAM	

### ICES Secretariat to complete the information below

Unique Identifier
Include the auto-generated identifier when the <u>approved</u> resolution is added to the resolution database
2026/SYM/SCICOM02

Resolution Parent (select one)
Symposia should generally select SCICOM
SCICOM

Professional Officer (if relevant)	Supporting Officer (if relevant)
Anne Cooper	

Global Symposium on Fisheries Management in an Ecosystem Context (FIMEC) (3–7 May 2027)

## Resolution Form: Symposium

Before completing this resolution form, please review the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#). Once approved, all resolution information on this form will be made publicly available on the ICES website.



Resolution Term (yyyy-mm-dd)	
Start date is date of submission of the resolution form. End date is December 31 of the symposium year.	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2026-01-09	<b>End Date:</b> 2027-12-31

**Symposium Title (character limit: 280)**

Global Symposium on Fisheries Management in an Ecosystem Context

**Symposium Conveners (maximum 5 individuals)**

Full Name	Institute	Email	Country
Jason Link	NOAA	jason.link@noaa.gov	USA
Sonia Batten	PICES	sonia.batten@pices.int	Canada
Dave Reid	ICES	david.reid@ices.dk	Denmark

**Symposium Website URL (if known)**

TBC

**Scientific Justification (character limit: 1500)**

Describe the aims, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of the symposium and the relevance of the symposium to the ICES [Science](#), [Advisory](#), and/or [Strategic](#) Plans

**Background:**

The global symposium on Ecosystem Approaches to Fisheries that substantially launched ecosystem-oriented fisheries management approaches was held in Reykjavik in 2001. It is now time to evaluate over two decades of fisheries work in an ecosystem context, given the multiple pressures still facing marine fisheries as well as new challenges and conditions confronting the world ocean. It has become apparent that the need for a global symposium on Fisheries Management in an Ecosystem Context (FIMEC) is highly appropriate, and timely, to revisit the global progress towards FIMEC more broadly.

The Vision of the Convening Committee is to: Convene global practitioners of Fisheries Management in an Ecosystem Context, and related, ecosystem-oriented fisheries management approaches, to Assess progress on the advancement of FIMEC, Discover lessons learned from decades of practical implementation, and

Establish a future trajectory for the discipline and practice of fisheries, by bringing together multiple disciplines and expertise from around the world, emphasizing experiences from all countries and cultures.

Scope:

The concepts of Ecosystem Approaches to Fisheries (EAF), Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management (EBFM), ecosystem-oriented fisheries management approaches, and various similar phrases related to FIMEC have a variety of meanings to different people. This symposium, while acknowledging this range, will focus on the common characteristics and elements of these ecosystem-oriented approaches, rather than on debating the meanings, definitions or benefits of any one approach nor classifications of those phrases. Common characteristics will inform our discussions, from ecosystem impacts of fisheries, the socio-political, cultural and economic context they operate in, treating fisheries as a system, fisheries in a multisectoral context, ecosystem variability impacting fisheries, and the consideration of ecosystem services and trade-offs.

This symposium has additional merit as countries around the world grapple with the implementation of instruments and agreements such as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement) which have implications for fisheries management across the globe. Fisheries management finds itself having to address concepts such as Natural Capital and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) which are not novel concepts, but have not been widely used in traditional fisheries management, even when taking an integrated ecosystem approach. Likewise, agreements such as CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) are impacting fisheries management. This symposium hopes to take steps to help demonstrate how the fisheries sector has a key role to play in the implementation of these agreements.

The symposium is also timely and significant given the major disruptions occurring to marine ecosystems. This means not only consideration of the impacts of other ocean-use sectors, and resulting pressures and perturbations that a crowded ocean presents, but automatically means thinking about global environmental change and the many facets of how climate-related events are expressed in changing ocean dynamics. Including these other factors has been a hallmark of FIMEC and needs continued examination.

Expected Outcomes:

- Convene global practitioners of FIMEC:
- Assess progress on the advancement of Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management:
- Discover lessons learned from decades of practical implementation:
- Establish a future trajectory for ecosystem-oriented fisheries efforts:

<b>Symposium Dates (yyyy-mm-dd)</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2027-05-03	<b>End Date:</b> 2027-05-07

<b>Venue</b> (e.g. conference centre, hotel)	<b>Format</b> (in-person, virtual, hybrid)	<b>Expected Number of Participants</b>
TBC	In person	1200

<b>City/Town</b>	<b>Country</b>
Penang	Malaysia

<b>Comments on dates, timeline, venue, location, and participants (character limit: 500)</b>
<p>For example, if any of the symposium details are tentative, provide potential timeline dates (month/year of abstract submission, registration, etc.), expected duration (number of days), venue[s] and location[s] under consideration</p>
<p>Dates are not finalised but expected within 2 months</p> <p>Duration will be 5 days</p> <p>Two locations: conference centres in Penang under consideration</p>

<b>Symposium Programme (character limit: 1500)</b>
<p>Briefly describe the symposium programme, including any pre- or post-symposium workshops, training, early career activities, and other coordinated events</p>
TBC

<b>Acronym[s] of ICES Working Groups, Strategic Initiatives, Steering Groups, Operational Groups, and other groups contributing to the symposium (optional)</b>
<p>SICCME, Many ICES EGs</p> <p>WGREIA (ASG):</p> <p>WGBIODIV, WGEVO, WGBYC Under EPDSG</p> <p>MCWG, WGCIAM etc. Many EG under HAPISG.</p> <p>Most EG in EAMSG and HUDISG</p>

**Contributions by ICES representatives (character limit: 1500)**

It is expected that scientists affiliated to ICES working groups and Secretariat professional staff are included in the scientific steering committee and represented in the organizing committee of co-sponsored symposia and, where necessary, for endorsement-only symposia (see Section 2.1, [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#)).

Please provide the following additional information: How will ICES representatives contribute to the planning and organization of the symposium? Members of the ICES community may, for instance, act as conveners or session chairs; serve on the planning board, scientific committee, or organizing committees; and assist with the selection of plenary speakers, awards recipients, or early career support.

Additionally, if ICES representatives are already involved in the symposium, please provide this information.

Currently the lead contribution will be from Dave Reid on both the Organizing and Science Committees. Alan Haynie will also be involved with the Organizing Committee. Numbers of ICES Network members are also on the Science Committee.

It is expected that ICES network members will apply for theme sessions, workshops etc.

Discussions have already occurred on Keynotes (DR)

ICES funding would be for the ECS support, and ICES will be involved in the succession.

**Resource Request (character limit: 1500)**

Before completing this section, conveners should read the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#) : particularly sections 1.2 and 1.3, which outline the types of financial, coordination, and technical support that ICES can provide. The support options depend on whether you are seeking ICES co-sponsorship or only its endorsement.

Please list all items requested of ICES in support of the symposium. Include specifics of any financial request, assistance with early career support applications, symposium registration, advertising, website, plans to use the ICES logo, etc. Clearly identify and describe requests that will require ICES Secretariat to commit time and staff – e.g., coordination, meeting documents, agenda, programmes, technical support, on-site participation, etc. – so ICES can accurately assess its ability to fulfil the requests.

We are requesting ICES co-sponsorship of the Conference, to include the following:

- Financial support. ICES co-funding to support the participation of early career scientists (10 000 euro) who would be attending;
- Provision of ICES logo for use on symposium materials;

- Promoting the symposium through ICES social media channels.

Principle request is for €10k for ECS support.

Dave Reid will be a convener and assist with ECS at the symposium. Dave Reid and the Head of Science Department will support the programme development.

#### **Additional Funding Sources/Sponsors (character limit: 1500)**

List all current, pending, and to-be-requested support from other sources: businesses, universities, national funds, etc. Please note that no information on funding is needed for endorsement-only requests.

FAO, NOAA, CSIRO, CSIRO, DFO, DFO, IMR, IFREMER/ IRD, South Korea, China, WorldFish, PICES, ICES, CGIAR, IOC, UNEP, UNDP, CBD, IUCN (CEM FEG), Nansen Project

#### **Plans for Publication of the Proceedings**

Specify potential publication outlet[s] below. For specific information on publishing proceedings in the ICES Journal of Marine Science (IJMS), refer to section 2.5 and Annex 4 of [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#).

Publication intended (specify): A conference proceedings volume, in partnership with WorldFish and FAO, also possible selected papers in a journal.

No publication intended

## **General Information**

#### **Resolution Status (select one)**

**New resolution**

This resolution has not been previously approved by the Advisory Committee (ACOM), Science Committee (SCICOM), and/or ICES Council

**Amendment to an approved resolution**

This is a change to a currently active resolution that has been approved previously. Common amendments include changes to conveners, updates to symposium dates or venue, and term extensions following unavoidable delays.

#### **One-Sentence Summary (character limit: 280)**

Describe the main purpose of this resolution in plain language that can be readily understood by non-experts. Use the active voice and avoid jargon. This summary will be used on the ICES website and social media channels.
Full sponsorship and financial support for the Global Symposium on Fisheries Management in an Ecosystem Context, to learn of the progress on implementation of ecosystem-oriented approaches and to produce a set of key statements on the topic

ICES Advisory Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)	
<b>Priority 1:</b> Ecosystem and climate-informed actionable advice	<b>Priority 2:</b> Building capacity and resilience

ICES Science Plan Themes (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)	
<b>Priority 1:</b> Marine ecosystem science	<b>Priority 2:</b> Conservation and restoration science

Additional Comments (character limit: 500) (optional)
Restrict comments to those that are required to understand and review this resolution <u>and</u> for which there is no existing box on the form (e.g. request for a special resolution term duration)

Geographic Focus (select at least one)
--

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Non-Geospecific</b>
Select this option when the resolution is not closely focused on a specific geographic region. For instance, symposia focused on techniques or processes typically fall under 'non-geospecific'.

ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions	Areas outside ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions
<input type="checkbox"/> Adriatic Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Sea (FAO area 18)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aegean-Levantine Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Antarctic (FAO area 48)
<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Ocean	<input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Eastern Central (FAO area 34)
<input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northeast (FAO area 27)	<input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northwest (FAO area 21)
<input type="checkbox"/> Azores	<input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southeast (FAO area 47)
<input type="checkbox"/> Baltic Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southwest (FAO area 41)
<input type="checkbox"/> Barents Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Western Central (FAO area 31)
<input type="checkbox"/> Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Antarctic and Southern (FAO area 58)
<input type="checkbox"/> Black Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Eastern (FAO area 57)
<input type="checkbox"/> Celtic Seas	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Western (FAO area 51)
<input type="checkbox"/> Faroes	<input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean and Black Sea (FAO area 37)
<input type="checkbox"/> Greater North Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Antarctic (FAO area 88)
<input type="checkbox"/> Greenland Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Eastern Central (FAO area 77)
<input type="checkbox"/> Icelandic Waters	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northeast (FAO area 67)
<input type="checkbox"/> Ionian Sea and the Central Mediterranean Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northwest (FAO area 61)
<input type="checkbox"/> Norwegian Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southeast (FAO area 87)
<input type="checkbox"/> Oceanic Northeast Atlantic	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southwest (FAO area 81)
<input type="checkbox"/> Western Mediterranean Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Western Central (FAO area 71)

**Close Links to Other Organizations (where relevant)**

Select scientific cooperation, agreements, partnerships, or other close links from the list below. Other links can be specified at the bottom of this table, but please restrict your list to pertinent organizations that are closely associated with this resolution.

**No close links to other organizations**

**United Nations Organizations and Programmes**

- European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)

<input type="checkbox"/> International Sea bed Authority (ISA) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UN Environment (UNEP) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UN Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC)
<b>European Commission and its Agencies</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> European Commission (EC) <input type="checkbox"/> European Environment Agency (EEA) <input type="checkbox"/> European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Research Council (JRC) <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs) <input type="checkbox"/> Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT)
<b>Regional Fisheries Organisations and Management Organizations (RFOs/RFMOs)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> General Fisheries Commission in the Mediterranean (GFCM) <input type="checkbox"/> International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) <input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) <input type="checkbox"/> North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) <input type="checkbox"/> Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)
<b>Regional Sea Conventions</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)
<b>Arctic Networks</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) <input type="checkbox"/> International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) <input type="checkbox"/> Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment Working Group (PAME)
<b>Scientific Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM) <input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)
<b>Other</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> European Aquaculture Society (EAS)
<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Marine Biosphere Research project (IMBeR)

Other organizations not listed above (if relevant)	

### ICES Secretariat to complete the information below

<b>Unique Identifier</b>
Include the auto-generated identifier when the <u>approved</u> resolution is added to the resolution database
2026/SYM/SCICOM03

<b>Resolution Parent (select one)</b>
Symposia should generally select SCICOM
SCICOM

<b>Professional Officer (if relevant)</b>	<b>Supporting Officer (if relevant)</b>
Dave Reid	Camilla Scharff-Olsen

## International Forum on Bycatch of Marine Megafauna (11–15 October 2027)

Resolution Form: Symposium. Before completing this resolution form, please review the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#). Once approved, all resolution information on this form will be made publicly available on the ICES website.



Resolution Term (yyyy-mm-dd)	
Start date is date of submission of the resolution form. End date is December 31 of the symposium year.	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2026-01-30	<b>End Date:</b> 2027-12-31

Symposium Title (character limit: 280)
International Forum on Bycatch of Marine Megafauna

Symposium Conveners (maximum 5 individuals)			
Full Name	Institute	Email	Country
Jacob González-Solís	Universitat de Barcelona	jgsolis@ub.edu	Spain
Emanuela Fanelli	Polytechnic University of Marche	e.fanelli@staff.univpm.it	Italy
Julia Calderwood	Marine Institute	julia.calderwood@marine.ie	Ireland
Valentina Melli	DTU Aqua	vmel@aqua.dtu.dk	Denmark
Anne-Marie Svoboda	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature	a.m.svoboda@minInv.nl	Netherlands

Symposium Website URL (if known)
tbc

Scientific Justification (character limit: 1500)
Describe the aims, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of the symposium <u>and</u> the relevance of the symposium to the ICES <a href="#">Science</a> , <a href="#">Advisory</a> , and/or <a href="#">Strategic</a> Plans
Bycatch is one of the most persistent global challenges to sustainable fisheries and biodiversity conservation, particularly for migratory marine megafauna exposed to multiple fisheries, management authorities, and governance frameworks. This symposium aims to advance the science, technology, and implementation of effective bycatch management and innovative fishing methods, with a focus on sharks, rays, sea turtles, seabirds, and marine mammals. Bringing together ICES Expert Groups (notably WGING, WGFTFB and

WGBYC), seven EU-funded projects, and international stakeholders, the symposium will address key themes, including harmonisation of monitoring methods, assessment of bycatch risk and impacts, and evaluation of mitigation tools, ranging from gear innovations and handling procedures to spatiotemporal and operational management measures, such as MSP and MPAs. A central objective is to translate scientific and technological advances into actionable management advice, while fostering dialogue with international policy frameworks, including FAO, RFBs and their advisory bodies, and relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements (CMS, CITES, CBD, UNEP RSC, BBNJ). Anticipated outcomes include strengthened international networks, improved alignment between science, policy, and industry, identification of priority research and capacity-building needs, and contributions to ecosystem-based fisheries management that supports transparent, ethical, and sustainable exploitation of marine resources.

<b>Symposium Dates (yyyy-mm-dd)</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2027-10-11	<b>End Date:</b> 2027-10-15

<b>Venue</b> (e.g. conference centre, hotel)	<b>Format</b> (in-person, virtual, hybrid)	<b>Expected Number of Participants</b>
The Fontán building	in-person	700

<b>City/Town</b>	<b>Country</b>
Santiago de Compostela	Spain

<b>Comments on dates, timeline, venue, location, and participants (character limit: 500)</b>
For example, if any of the symposium details are tentative, provide potential timeline dates (month/year of abstract submission, registration, etc.), expected duration (number of days), venue[s] and location[s] under consideration
The symposium is tentatively scheduled for 11–15 October 2027, with pre- and post-symposium workshops potentially organised before and after the main week

<b>Symposium Programme (character limit: 1500)</b>
Briefly describe the symposium programme, including any pre- or post-symposium workshops, training, early career activities, and other coordinated events
The four-day symposium will provide an integrated forum to advance understanding and solutions for bycatch across fisheries and regions, directly supporting ecosystem-based fisheries management and ICES advisory processes. Core sessions will cover advances in bycatch science and monitoring; management approaches including innovative, selective, and low-impact fishing gears; and digital and automated tools such as electronic and video monitoring, sensors, eDNA, and machine-learning/AI. Sessions will also address taxon-specific and cross-taxa challenges for marine megafauna, fisheries- and region-specific case studies,

socio-economic aspects of bycatch reduction, and policy, governance, and market-based drivers for uptake of mitigation measures. The programme will combine keynote lectures, plenaries, themed scientific sessions, panel discussions, technical workshops, and interactive demonstrations to foster exchange among scientists, managers, industry, and technology developers. A pre-symposium workshop will showcase emerging gear prototypes and digital tools, and a post-symposium workshop will focus on governance and translating outcomes into management advice. Side events will include industry–science roundtables, policy dialogues, hands-on training, and art interactions, with focus on low- and middle-income contexts. Early-career activities will include mentoring, pitch events, awards, and targeted funding support

**Acronym[s] of ICES Working Groups, Strategic Initiatives, Steering Groups, Operational Groups, and other groups contributing to the symposium (optional)**

WGING, WGBYC, WGFTFB, JWGBIRD

**Contributions by ICES representatives (character limit: 1500)**

It is expected that scientists affiliated to ICES working groups and Secretariat professional staff are included in the scientific steering committee and represented in the organizing committee of co-sponsored symposia and, where necessary, for endorsement-only symposia (see Section 2.1, [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#)).

Please provide the following additional information: How will ICES representatives contribute to the planning and organization of the symposium? Members of the ICES community may, for instance, act as conveners or session chairs; serve on the planning board, scientific committee, or organizing committees; and assist with the selection of plenary speakers, awards recipients, or early career support.

Additionally, if ICES representatives are already involved in the symposium, please provide this information.

ICES community will be fully integrated into the planning and organization of the symposium. They will serve on the scientific steering committee and organizing committee, act as conveners or session chairs, assist in selecting plenary speakers and award recipients, and provide guidance on early-career activities. Their involvement will ensure alignment with ICES advisory priorities, strengthen scientific credibility, and facilitate translation of symposium outcomes into ecosystem-based fisheries management advice. The following members of the ICES scientists community and secretariat staff are members of the steering committee or the organizing committee, but many others will be contacted to make sure a large involvement of the ICES community in the event:

- Julia Calderwood, WGING Co-Chair, Marine Institute, Ireland
- Jónas R. Viðarsson, WGING Expert, Matis, Iceland
- Valentina Melli, WGFTFB and WGING Expert, DTU, Denmark
- Caecilia Managò, WGING PO, ICES Secretariat, Denmark
- Camilo Saavedra, WGBYC Expert, IEO-CSIC, Spain

**Resource Request (character limit: 1500)**

Before completing this section, conveners should read the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#) : particularly sections 1.2 and 1.3, which outline the types of financial, coordination, and technical support that

ICES can provide. The support options depend on whether you are seeking ICES co-sponsorship or only its endorsement.

Please list all items requested of ICES in support of the symposium. Include specifics of any financial request, assistance with early career support applications, symposium registration, advertising, website, plans to use the ICES logo, etc. Clearly identify and describe requests that will require ICES Secretariat to commit time and staff – e.g., coordination, meeting documents, agenda, programmes, technical support, on-site participation, etc. – so ICES can accurately assess its ability to fulfil the requests.

### ICES Support Requested

#### Financial Support

- **€10,000 – Early Career Scientist (ECS) support**
  - Covers travel, accommodation, and registration for selected ECS participants.
  - The selection panel includes a member of the ICES Secretariat.
  - Reduce financial barriers for participants from underrepresented regions.

#### In-Kind Support

- **Advertising on social media (SoMe)**
  - Promotion through ICES official channels to increase symposium visibility and participation.
- **Use of ICES logo**
  - Permission to display ICES logo on symposium materials, programs, and advertising.
- **Inclusion of ICES staff / representatives**
  - Participation in organizing and scientific committees, plenaries, and workshops to ensure scientific quality and advisory relevance.
- Secretariat assistance with other ad hoc tasks;
- ICES provision of early career scientists workshops and events;
- Secretariat staff on site during the symposium to present, convene, run workshops, or assist in other tasks.

### Additional Funding Sources/Sponsors (character limit: 1500)

List all current, pending, and to-be-requested support from other sources: businesses, universities, national funds, etc. Please note that no information on funding is needed for endorsement-only requests.

#### Potential Income

- **€70,000** – In-person registration fees
- **€4,000** – Online registration fees

- **Venue** – Secured free of charge via an existing CSIC–Fontán Building agreement
- **€20,000** – Sponsorship to be requested from industry, fisheries associations, and technology providers, including commercial fishing associations interested in sustainable practices, seafood certification schemes, and manufacturers of low-impact fishing gear, mitigation tools, digital monitoring systems, sensors, eDNA technologies, AI, and animal tracking devices.

Additional support will also be sought from:

- Government agencies and public institutions
- International and intergovernmental organizations
- NGOs and conservation organizations
- Private foundations and philanthropic organizations

Finally, EU-funded projects on bycatch and sustainable fisheries (REDUCE, MarineGuardian, Eco-Catch, Sea4Future, MarineBeacon, Cibbrina, Life Prometheus) may provide supplementary support if needed.

#### Plans for Publication of the Proceedings

Specify potential publication outlet[s] below. For specific information on publishing proceedings in the ICES Journal of Marine Science (IJMS), refer to section 2.5 and Annex 4 of [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#).

- Publication intended (specify): We aim to apply for a special issue in ICES Journal of Marine Science (IJMS).
- No publication intended

## General Information

#### Resolution Status (select one)

**New resolution**

This resolution has not been previously approved by the Advisory Committee (ACOM), Science Committee (SCICOM), and/or ICES Council

**Amendment to an approved resolution**

This is a change to a currently active resolution that has been approved previously. Common amendments include changes to conveners, updates to symposium dates or venue, and term extensions following unavoidable delays.

#### One-Sentence Summary (character limit: 280)

Describe the main purpose of this resolution in plain language that can be readily understood by non-experts. Use the active voice and avoid jargon. This summary will be used on the ICES website and social media channels.

The 'International Forum on Bycatch of Marine Megafauna' unites scientists, technology developers, stakeholders, policymakers and international bodies to advance innovative monitoring, mitigation, capacity-building, and governance for reducing marine megafauna bycatch

**ICES Advisory Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)**

**Priority 1:** Process innovation and efficiency

**Priority 2:** Building capacity and resilience

**ICES Science Plan Themes (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)**

**Priority 1:** Impacts of human activities

**Priority 2:** Emerging techniques and technologies

**Additional Comments (character limit: 500) (optional)**

Restrict comments to those that are required to understand and review this resolution and for which there is no existing box on the form (e.g. request for a special resolution term duration)

The symposium will integrate ICES Expert Groups, EU innovation projects, industry, NGOs, and policymakers to advance cross-sector solutions for bycatch reduction of marine megafauna. Pre- and post-symposium workshops will provide hands-on training and technology demonstrations. Outcomes will support ICES advisory priorities, including the EU Technical Measures Regulation and ecosystem-based fisheries management.

**Geographic Focus (select at least one)**

**Non-Geospecific**

Select this option when the resolution is not closely focused on a specific geographic region. For instance, symposia focused on techniques or processes typically fall under 'non-geospecific'.

ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions	Areas outside ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adriatic Sea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aegean-Levantine Sea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arctic Ocean <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northeast (FAO area 27) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Azores <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Baltic Sea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barents Sea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Black Sea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Celtic Seas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Faroes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arctic Sea (FAO area 18) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Antarctic (FAO area 48) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Eastern Central (FAO area 34) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northwest (FAO area 21) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southeast (FAO area 47) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southwest (FAO area 41) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Western Central (FAO area 31) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Antarctic and Southern (FAO area 58) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Eastern (FAO area 57) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Western (FAO area 51) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean and Black Sea (FAO area 37)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greater North Sea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Antarctic (FAO area 88)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greenland Sea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Eastern Central (FAO area 77)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Icelandic Waters	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northeast (FAO area 67)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ionian Sea and the Central Mediterranean Sea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northwest (FAO area 61)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Norwegian Sea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southeast (FAO area 87)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oceanic Northeast Atlantic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southwest (FAO area 81)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Western Mediterranean Sea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Western Central (FAO area 71)

#### Close Links to Other Organizations (where relevant)

Select scientific cooperation, agreements, partnerships, or other close links from the list below. Other links can be specified at the bottom of this table, but please restrict your list to pertinent organizations that are closely associated with this resolution.

No close links to other organizations

#### United Nations Organizations and Programmes

- European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- International Sea bed Authority (ISA)
- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- UN Environment (UNEP)
- UN Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC)

#### European Commission and its Agencies

- European Commission (EC)
- European Environment Agency (EEA)
- European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)
- Joint Research Council (JRC)
- Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs)
- Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT)

#### Regional Fisheries Organisations and Management Organizations (RFOs/RFMOs)

- General Fisheries Commission in the Mediterranean (GFCM)
- International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
- North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO)
- North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)
- Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)

#### Regional Sea Conventions

- Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM)
- Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)

#### Arctic Networks

- Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)
- Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)
- International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)

<input type="checkbox"/> Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment Working Group (PAME)
<b>Scientific Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM)
<input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO)
<input type="checkbox"/> North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)
<b>Other</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> European Aquaculture Society (EAS)
<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Marine Biosphere Research project (IMBeR)

Other organizations not listed above (if relevant)	
European Union the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)	

### ICES Secretariat to complete the information below

<b>Unique Identifier</b>
Include the auto-generated identifier when the <u>approved</u> resolution is added to the resolution database
2026/SYM/SCICOM04

<b>Resolution Parent (select one)</b>
Symposia should generally select SCICOM
SCICOM

<b>Professional Officer (if relevant)</b>	<b>Supporting Officer (if relevant)</b>
Caecilia Manago	

**Atlantic Plastics 2026; 3rd International Symposium on Marine Plastic Pollution from the Arctic to the Antarctic (20–22 October 2026)**

## Resolution Form: Symposium



Before completing this resolution form, please review the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#). Once approved, all resolution information on this form will be made publicly available on the ICES website.

Resolution Term (yyyy-mm-dd)	
Start date is date of submission of the resolution form. End date is December 31 of the symposium year.	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2026-02-05	<b>End Date:</b> 2026-12-31

Symposium Title (character limit: 280)
Atlantic Plastics 2026; 3 <sup>rd</sup> International Symposium on Marine Plastic Pollution from the Arctic to the Antarctic

Symposium Conveners (maximum 5 individuals)			
Full Name	Institute	Email	Country
Magnús Jóhannesson	Former Director of the Arctic Council Secretariat	magjoh@simnet.is	Iceland
Embla Eir Oddsdóttir	Director, Icelandic Arctic Cooperation Network	embla@arcticiceland.is	Iceland
Sólrun Svandal	Senior Adviser, Ocean Affairs, Ministry for Foreign Affairs	solrun.svandal@utn.is	Iceland

<b>Symposium Website URL (if known)</b>
<a href="http://www.atlanticplastics.is">www.atlanticplastics.is</a>

<b>Scientific Justification (character limit: 1500)</b>
Describe the aims, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of the symposium <u>and</u> the relevance of the symposium to the ICES <a href="#">Science</a> , <a href="#">Advisory</a> , and/or <a href="#">Strategic</a> Plans
<p>A healthy Ocean is fundamental to sustaining life on our blue planet. Alas, plastic is now found at every level of the marine environment, floating on the surface, in the water column, settled on the seabed, and even within marine organisms. Reducing plastic pollution is crucial to safeguard marine ecosystems and ensure global well-being.</p> <p>This third symposium on marine plastics pollution will build on the foundation of science and research presented in the previous two symposia and produce information and advice for decision makers. It aims for exchange of views and updates of knowledge from various sources. The symposium will examine sources and transport pathways, without neglecting interdisciplinary research on economic, social and health dimensions, importantly including emerging fields of research such as the impacts of plastics on marine life and human health. Practical mitigation strategies will also be discussed.</p> <p>By expanding the scope from the Arctic to the Antarctic the symposium seeks to underscore the global effort needed to address the plastic challenge, and that a common understanding of the problem is essential to finding common solutions.</p>

<b>Symposium Dates (yyyy-mm-dd)</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2026-10-20	<b>End Date:</b> 2026-10-22

<b>Venue</b> (e.g. conference centre, hotel)	<b>Format</b> (in-person, virtual, hybrid)	<b>Expected Number of Participants</b>
Harpa Concert and Conference Centre	In person	300-400

<b>City/Town</b>	<b>Country</b>
Reykjavik	Iceland

**Comments on dates, timeline, venue, location, and participants (character limit: 500)**

For example, if any of the symposium details are tentative, provide potential timeline dates (month/year of abstract submission, registration, etc.), expected duration (number of days), venue[s] and location[s] under consideration

A science and research symposium to be held on site, at Harpa Concert and Conference centre, Reykjavik. Website launched: 15 December 2025; call for abstracts launched 10 January 2026, closing 31 March; registration is open (early bird: 275 EUR, student: 170); early bird registration closing 15 July; deadline for registration CoB 12 October.

**Symposium Programme (character limit: 1500)**

Briefly describe the symposium programme, including any pre- or post-symposium workshops, training, early career activities, and other coordinated events

Programme is still work in progress. Aimed at draft agenda being published by the end of May.

The Scientific Steering Committee has proposed six themes that have been introduced in conjunction with the launch of the call for abstracts:

1. Innovative Plastic Pollution Monitoring and Assessment across multi-scales
2. Modelling Sources, Pathways and Fate of Plastics in the Environment
3. Assessing Impacts of Plastic Pollution
4. Circular Economy, Innovation, and Industry Solutions
5. Mitigation, Management, and Restoration
6. Science-Policy Interface and Capacity Building

Themes to be presented through keynote addresses, panel discussions, poster presentations. Facilitated roundtables of participants.

**Acronym[s] of ICES Working Groups, Strategic Initiatives, Steering Groups, Operational Groups, and other groups contributing to the symposium (optional)**

MCWG; WGML

**Contributions by ICES representatives (character limit: 1500)**

It is expected that scientists affiliated to ICES working groups and Secretariat professional staff are included in the scientific steering committee and represented in the organizing committee of co-

sponsored symposia and, where necessary, for endorsement-only symposia (see Section 2.1, [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#)).

Please provide the following additional information: How will ICES representatives contribute to the planning and organization of the symposium? Members of the ICES community may, for instance, act as conveners or session chairs; serve on the planning board, scientific committee, or organizing committees; and assist with the selection of plenary speakers, awards recipients, or early career support.

Additionally, if ICES representatives are already involved in the symposium, please provide this information.

An ICES representative has been nominated to the symposium Scientific Steering Committee. The Committee is responsible for programme development, selection of speakers and presenters, based on the call for abstracts. Some members of the Scientific Steering Committee, based on their availability, will also: chair sessions, moderate panel discussions, and/or facilitate roundtables.

Scientific Steering Committee members are furthermore requested to disseminate information about the symposium to relevant audiences in their network, for example through website, social media outlets and/or emails.

#### **Resource Request (character limit: 1500)**

Before completing this section, conveners should read the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#): particularly sections 1.2 and 1.3, which outline the types of financial, coordination, and technical support that ICES can provide. The support options depend on whether you are seeking ICES co-sponsorship or only its endorsement.

Please list all items requested of ICES in support of the symposium. Include specifics of any financial request, assistance with early career support applications, symposium registration, advertising, website, plans to use the ICES logo, etc. Clearly identify and describe requests that will require ICES Secretariat to commit time and staff – e.g., coordination, meeting documents, agenda, programmes, technical support, on-site participation, etc. – so ICES can accurately assess its ability to fulfil the requests.

ICES is kindly requested to provide:

- 1) a professional Officer from ICES Secretariat to participate in the work of the Scientific Steering Committee.
- 2) permission to use ICES logo on symposium website and promotional material along with the logos of other symposium partners.

3) assistance with dissemination of information about the Symposium to ICES contact lists and/or through ICES website / social media platforms

**Additional Funding Sources/Sponsors (character limit: 1500)**

List all current, pending, and to-be-requested support from other sources: businesses, universities, national funds, etc. Please note that no information on funding is needed for endorsement-only requests.

Total cost estimate: 545,000 EUR

Registration fees, estimated income: 75,500 EUR

Main funding sources: The Government of Iceland, Nordic Council of Ministers.

Organizing Partners providing in kind contributions:

Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture of Brazil

Kingdom of Morocco Ministry of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates

African Atlantic States Process

IOC UNESCO

Fisheries Iceland

Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME), Arctic Council Working Group

Icelandic Arctic Cooperation Network

Pending reply:

Government of Germany

Government of the UK

Government of South Africa

Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP)

GRID Arendal

European Environment Agency

**Plans for Publication of the Proceedings**

Specify potential publication outlet[s] below. For specific information on publishing proceedings in the ICES Journal of Marine Science (IJMS), refer to section 2.5 and Annex 4 of [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#).

- Publication intended (specify): on symposium website. No printed copies foreseen.
- No publication intended

**General Information****Resolution Status (select one)** **New resolution**

This resolution has not been previously approved by the Advisory Committee (ACOM), Science Committee (SCICOM), and/or ICES Council

 **Amendment to an approved resolution**

This is a change to a currently active resolution that has been approved previously. Common amendments include changes to conveners, updates to symposium dates or venue, and term extensions following unavoidable delays.

**One-Sentence Summary (character limit: 280)**

Describe the main purpose of this resolution in plain language that can be readily understood by non-experts. Use the active voice and avoid jargon. This summary will be used on the ICES website and social media channels.

**#AtlanticPlastics2026** will bring to light research and science from Northern-Southern Hemispheres, welcoming contributions from private sector and NGOs; in support of evidence-based sustainable solutions to one of the biggest environmental challenges today.

The Symposium is an Ocean Decade event approved by IOC-UNESCO.

**ICES Advisory Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)**

**Priority 1:** Building capacity and resilience

**Priority 2:** None

ICES Science Plan Themes (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)	
Priority 1: Impacts of human activities	Priority 2: Sea and society

**Additional Comments (character limit: 500) (optional)**

Restrict comments to those that are required to understand and review this resolution and for which there is no existing box on the form (e.g. request for a special resolution term duration)

Conveners understand that this resolution is handed in late, however in our defence, the invitation sent to ICES 30 October 2025, was responded to on 29 January 2026.

**Geographic Focus (select at least one)**

**Non-Geospecific**

Select this option when the resolution is not closely focused on a specific geographic region. For instance, symposia focused on techniques or processes typically fall under ‘non-geospecific’.

ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions	Areas outside ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions
<input type="checkbox"/> Adriatic Sea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arctic Sea (FAO area 18)
<input type="checkbox"/> Aegean-Levantine Sea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Antarctic (FAO area 48)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arctic Ocean	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Eastern Central (FAO area 34)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northeast (FAO area 27)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northwest (FAO area 21)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Azores	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southeast (FAO area 47)
<input type="checkbox"/> Baltic Sea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southwest (FAO area 41)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barents Sea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Western Central (FAO area 31)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Antarctic and Southern (FAO area 58)
<input type="checkbox"/> Black Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Eastern (FAO area 57)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Celtic Seas	

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Faroes	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Western (FAO area 51)
<input type="checkbox"/> Greater North Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean and Black Sea (FAO area 37)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greenland Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Antarctic (FAO area 88)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Icelandic Waters	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Eastern Central (FAO area 77)
<input type="checkbox"/> Ionian Sea and the Central Mediterranean Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northeast (FAO area 67)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Norwegian Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northwest (FAO area 61)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oceanic Northeast Atlantic	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southeast (FAO area 87)
<input type="checkbox"/> Western Mediterranean Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southwest (FAO area 81)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Western Central (FAO area 71)

#### Close Links to Other Organizations (where relevant)

Select scientific cooperation, agreements, partnerships, or other close links from the list below. Other links can be specified at the bottom of this table, but please restrict your list to pertinent organizations that are closely associated with this resolution.

No close links to other organizations

#### United Nations Organizations and Programmes

- European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- International Sea bed Authority (ISA)
- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- UN Environment (UNEP)
- UN Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC)

#### European Commission and its Agencies

- European Commission (EC)

<input type="checkbox"/> European Environment Agency (EEA) <input type="checkbox"/> European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Research Council (JRC) <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs) <input type="checkbox"/> Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT)
<b>Regional Fisheries Organisations and Management Organizations (RFOs/RFMOs)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> General Fisheries Commission in the Mediterranean (GFCM) <input type="checkbox"/> International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) <input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) <input type="checkbox"/> North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) <input type="checkbox"/> Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)
<b>Regional Sea Conventions</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM) <input type="checkbox"/> Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)
<b>Arctic Networks</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) <input type="checkbox"/> International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment Working Group (PAME)
<b>Scientific Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM) <input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO) <input type="checkbox"/> North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)
<b>Other</b> <input type="checkbox"/> European Aquaculture Society (EAS) <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Marine Biosphere Research project (IMBeR)

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Other organizations not listed above (if relevant)	

### ICES Secretariat to complete the information below

#### Unique Identifier

Include the auto-generated identifier when the approved resolution is added to the resolution database

2026/SYM/SCICOM01

#### Resolution Parent (select one)

Symposia should generally select SCICOM

SCICOM

Professional Officer (if relevant)	Supporting Officer (if relevant)
Jo Foden	Camilla Scharff-Olsen

XIV Mexican Coral Reef Congress – V Pan-American Coral Reef Congress (24–29 October 2027)

## Resolution Form: Symposium

Before completing this resolution form, please review the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#). Once approved, all resolution information on this form will be made publicly available on the ICES website.



Resolution Term (yyyy-mm-dd)

Start date is date of submission of the resolution form. End date is December 31 of the symposium year.	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2026-01-31	<b>End Date:</b> 2027-12-31

<b>Symposium Title (character limit: 280)</b>
<b>XIV Congreso Mexicano de Arrecifes Coralinos-V Congreso Panamericano de Arrecifes Coralinos</b> <b>XIV Mexican Coral Reef Congress – V Pan-American Coral Reef Congress</b>

<b>Symposium Conveners (maximum 5 individuals)</b>			
<b>Full Name</b>	<b>Institute</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Country</b>
Gerardo Esteban Leyte Morales	Universidad del Mar, campus Puerto Ángel	gerardoleytem@gmail.com	México
Georgina Ramírez Ortiz	Instituto de Ciencias del Mar y Limnología, Unidad Mazatlán, UNAM	gramirezortiz@ola.icmyl.unam.mx	México
Diana Elizabeth Morales de Anda	Unidad Mérida, Centro de Investigación y de Estudios Avanzados del IPN	diana.moralesa@cinvestav.mx	México
Luz María Hernández Ballesteros	Universidad del Mar, campus Puerto Ángel	luzheba@gmail.com	México
Eduardo Ramirez Chavez	Universidad del Mar, campus Puerto Ángel	eduardo_rmz@aulavirtual.umar.mx	México

<b>Symposium Website URL (if known)</b>
<a href="https://somal.org.mx/">https://somal.org.mx/</a>

**Scientific Justification (character limit: 1500)**

Describe the aims, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of the symposium and the relevance of the symposium to the ICES [Science](#), [Advisory](#), and/or [Strategic](#) Plans

Organized by the Mexican Society for Coral Reefs (SOMAC), this symposium will be held within the XIV Mexican Coral Reef Congress and V Pan-American Coral Reef Congress at Universidad del Mar–Campus Puerto Ángel, Oaxaca, Mexico (late Oct 2027). It will convene cross-sector, intergenerational participants to connect reef science across linked seascapes (reefs–mangroves–seagrasses–fisheries) with conservation, restoration and management practice. Past CMAC–CPAC editions have brought together leading scientists, early-career researchers (ECRs), undergraduate and graduate students, conservationists, managers and the public, strengthening an inclusive community and ECR participation. An ECR-led board and commissions have worked since early planning to widen participation through pre-congress seminars, mentoring, skills workshops and networking. Objectives: (1) synthesize evidence on drivers of reef change, connectivity and resilience under climate extremes; (2) harmonize monitoring and assessment for marine protected areas (MPAs), restoration and artisanal fisheries; (3) co-produce advice-relevant priorities and collaboration agendas with academia, NGOs, agencies, MPA managers and local stakeholders; (4) deliver outreach to share findings and engage the local population. Outcomes: synthesis roadmap and priority questions; guidance for interoperable monitoring; strengthened cross-sector networks and early-career capacity; and a practice brief plus publication/outreach plans. Relevance to ICES: supports ecosystem-based marine science and the science–advice interface via international collaboration and capacity building.

<b>Symposium Dates (yyyy-mm-dd)</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2027-10-24	<b>End Date:</b> 2027-10-29

<b>Venue</b> (e.g. conference centre, hotel)	<b>Format</b> (in-person, virtual, hybrid)	<b>Expected Number of Participants</b>
Universidad del Mar, Campus Puerto Ángel	In-person	220

<b>City/Town</b>	<b>Country</b>
Puerto Ángel, Oaxaca	México

**Comments on dates, timeline, venue, location, and participants (character limit: 500)**

For example, if any of the symposium details are tentative, provide potential timeline dates (month/year of abstract submission, registration, etc.), expected duration (number of days), venue[s] and location[s] under consideration

Potential dates:

Abstract submission- February to May/2027

Acceptance notice- July/2027

Registration- July to October/2027

Expected duration (number of days)- 5 to 6 days (24 to 29/10/2027)

Venue: Universidad del Mar, Campus Puerto Ángel, Oaxaca, México

[www.umar.mx](http://www.umar.mx)

#### **Symposium Programme (character limit: 1500)**

Briefly describe the symposium programme, including any pre- or post-symposium workshops, training, early career activities, and other coordinated events

The 5–6-day symposium will combine plenary keynotes, expert panels and parallel thematic sessions. Topics will be finalized through open calls led by SOMAC working groups and congress commissions, ensuring broad representation across disciplines, regions and sectors (academia, NGOs, MPA managers and other stakeholders). The programme includes daily oral sessions, dedicated poster sessions, juried undergraduate and graduate student competitions with awards, and a closing synthesis session focused on actionable priorities and collaborative outputs. Pre-symposium, we will offer hands-on training workshops (methods/tools aligned with themes) plus practical sessions on publishing, grants, project management and reproducible workflows. Early-career researchers (ECRs) are central: an ECR track with short courses, lightning talks, structured poster interactions, mentoring and networking, and opportunities to serve as co-organizers, moderators and evaluators alongside senior scientists and practitioners. For the first time, many session-chair and commission roles will be led by ECRs, strengthening career pipelines, visibility and leadership. The Student Commission will help design and deliver ECR/student activities, coordinate judging and awards, and build community across undergraduate and graduate cohorts. We will prioritize accessibility and low-barrier participation via a coordinated pathway into the symposium (pre-event ECR seminars, visibility and mentoring activities, inclusive calls) to broaden engagement and support durable cross-sector collaborations.

**Acronym[s] of ICES Working Groups, Strategic Initiatives, Steering Groups, Operational Groups, and other groups contributing to the symposium (optional)**

Potential ICES working groups that could be involved include the Working Group on Deep-water Ecology (WGDEC) and the Working Group on Coastal Habitats for Exploited Species (WGVHES). The aims of both groups align closely with the Society's research and conservation priorities, and their integration would be highly beneficial. Within the Mexican Society of Coral Reefs (SOMAC), eight operational groups will contribute to the symposium and support activities leading up to the conference. These groups include Executive Board, Scientific & Academic Committee, Pacific Committee, Atlantic Committee, Internet & Social Media Committee, Student Committee, Communications Committee, Ethics Committee, Local Operational Group.

**Contributions by ICES representatives (character limit: 1500)**

It is expected that scientists affiliated to ICES working groups and Secretariat professional staff are included in the scientific steering committee and represented in the organizing committee of co-sponsored symposia and, where necessary, for endorsement-only symposia (see Section 2.1, [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#)).

Please provide the following additional information: How will ICES representatives contribute to the planning and organization of the symposium? Members of the ICES community may, for instance, act as conveners or session chairs; serve on the planning board, scientific committee, or organizing committees; and assist with the selection of plenary speakers, awards recipients, or early career support.

Additionally, if ICES representatives are already involved in the symposium, please provide this information.

ICES representatives and working groups (WGDEC, WGVHES) could contribute to three main aspects of the XIV Congreso Mexicano de Arrecifes Coralinos-V Congreso Panamericano de Arrecifes Coralinos:

1. As collaborator with the scientific committee in charge of the session planning and selection of plenary speakers.
2. As advisors on the criteria for the evaluation of students' posters presentations to determine the awards recipients.
3. As advisors on the process and evaluation of the early career support to determine the awards recipients for conference.
4. As session chairs and reviewers of the abstracts to promote and accommodate diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as to determine the early career support recipients.

**Resource Request (character limit: 1500)**

Before completing this section, conveners should read the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#) : particularly sections 1.2 and 1.3, which outline the types of financial, coordination, and technical support that ICES can provide. The support options depend on whether you are seeking ICES co-sponsorship or only its endorsement.

Please list all items requested of ICES in support of the symposium. Include specifics of any financial request, assistance with early career support applications, symposium registration, advertising, website, plans to use the ICES logo, etc. Clearly identify and describe requests that will require ICES Secretariat to commit time and staff – e.g., coordination, meeting documents, agenda, programmes, technical support, on-site participation, etc. – so ICES can accurately assess its ability to fulfil the requests.

Requested support from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) includes: (1) co-sponsorship and permission to use the ICES logo on the symposium webpage, programme and communications; (2) dissemination through ICES channels (event calendar, website, newsletter and social media) to broaden international participation; (3) advisory support to design and implement an early-career attendance support scheme (application wording, eligibility, transparent selection criteria, review workflow and reporting); (4) participation of 1–2 ICES representatives as scientific advisors (session planning and selection of plenary speakers), and abstract reviewers.

Registration, website management and local logistics will be handled by the local organizing committee.

**24/03/2026**

SCICOM granted endorsement-only status to this symposium, which includes:

- Provision of ICES logo for use on symposium materials
- Promoting the symposium through ICES social media channels
- ICES Secretariat on the SSC to provide support and advise as needed in the planning of the conference. The representative cannot attend in-person.

**Additional Funding Sources/Sponsors (character limit: 1500)**

List all current, pending, and to-be-requested support from other sources: businesses, universities, national funds, etc. Please note that no information on funding is needed for endorsement-only requests.

Secretaría de Ciencia, Humanidades, Tecnología e Innovación (SECIHTI)

International Coral Reef Society

The Company of Biologists

Wildcoast

Universidad del Mar

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### Plans for Publication of the Proceedings

Specify potential publication outlet[s] below. For specific information on publishing proceedings in the ICES Journal of Marine Science (IJMS), refer to section 2.5 and Annex 4 of [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#).

Publication intended (specify): Ciencias Marinas <https://cienciasmarinas.com.mx/index.php/cmarias/about>

No publication intended

## General Information

### Resolution Status (select one)

**New resolution**

This resolution has not been previously approved by the Advisory Committee (ACOM), Science Committee (SCICOM), and/or ICES Council

**Amendment to an approved resolution**

This is a change to a currently active resolution that has been approved previously. Common amendments include changes to conveners, updates to symposium dates or venue, and term extensions following unavoidable delays.

### One-Sentence Summary (character limit: 280)

Describe the main purpose of this resolution in plain language that can be readily understood by non-experts. Use the active voice and avoid jargon. This summary will be used on the ICES website and social media channels.

A collaborative, cross-sector and intergenerational symposium linking coral reef science with connected ecosystems and conservation practice, convening academia, NGOs, MPA managers and other stakeholders to foster long-term research and conservation initiatives

### ICES Advisory Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)

**Priority 1:** Assuring quality

**Priority 2:** Process innovation and efficiency

ICES Science Plan Themes (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)	
Priority 1: Conservation and restoration science	Priority 2: Sea and society

**Additional Comments (character limit: 500) (optional)**

Restrict comments to those that are required to understand and review this resolution and for which there is no existing box on the form (e.g. request for a special resolution term duration)

This resolution reflects SOMAC's plan to strengthen early-career leadership and inclusive participation. For the first time, the Board includes formal early-career representation, supported by dedicated Student and Ethics commissions. All local logistics, registration and website management will be handled by the local organizing committee; ICES support is requested mainly for endorsement/co-sponsorship, international dissemination, and advisory participation to ensure transparent early-career support and award processes.

**Geographic Focus (select at least one)**

**Non-Geospecific**

Select this option when the resolution is not closely focused on a specific geographic region. For instance, symposia focused on techniques or processes typically fall under 'non-geospecific'.

ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions	Areas outside ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions
<input type="checkbox"/> Adriatic Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Aegean-Levantine Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Ocean <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northeast (FAO area 27) <input type="checkbox"/> Azores <input type="checkbox"/> Baltic Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Barents Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast <input type="checkbox"/> Black Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Celtic Seas	<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Sea (FAO area 18) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Antarctic (FAO area 48) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Eastern Central (FAO area 34) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northwest (FAO area 21) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southeast (FAO area 47) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southwest (FAO area 41) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Western Central (FAO area 31) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Antarctic and Southern (FAO area 58) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Eastern (FAO area 57)

<input type="checkbox"/> Faroes <input type="checkbox"/> Greater North Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Greenland Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Icelandic Waters <input type="checkbox"/> Ionian Sea and the Central Mediterranean Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Norwegian Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Oceanic Northeast Atlantic <input type="checkbox"/> Western Mediterranean Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Western (FAO area 51) <input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean and Black Sea (FAO area 37) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Antarctic (FAO area 88) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Eastern Central (FAO area 77) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northeast (FAO area 67) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northwest (FAO area 61) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southeast (FAO area 87) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southwest (FAO area 81) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Western Central (FAO area 71)
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**Close Links to Other Organizations (where relevant)**

Select scientific cooperation, agreements, partnerships, or other close links from the list below. Other links can be specified at the bottom of this table, but please restrict your list to pertinent organizations that are closely associated with this resolution.

**No close links to other organizations**

**United Nations Organizations and Programmes**

- European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- International Sea bed Authority (ISA)
- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- UN Environment (UNEP)
- UN Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC)

**European Commission and its Agencies**

- European Commission (EC)
- European Environment Agency (EEA)
- European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)

- Joint Research Council (JRC)
- Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs)
- Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT)

#### **Regional Fisheries Organisations and Management Organizations (RFOs/RFMOs)**

- General Fisheries Commission in the Mediterranean (GFCM)
- International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
- North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO)
- North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)
- Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)

#### **Regional Sea Conventions**

- Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM)
- Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)

#### **Arctic Networks**

- Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)
- Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)
- International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)
- Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment Working Group (PAME)

#### **Scientific Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)**

- Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM)
- North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO)
- North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)

#### **Other**

- European Aquaculture Society (EAS)
- Integrated Marine Biosphere Research project (IMBeR)

#### **Other organizations not listed above (if relevant)**

International Coral Reef Society	
Universidad del Mar	

CONANP	

**ICES Secretariat to complete the information below**

**Unique Identifier**

Include the auto-generated identifier when the approved resolution is added to the resolution database

2026/SYM/SCICOM05

**Resolution Parent (select one)**

Symposia should generally select SCICOM

SCICOM

<b>Professional Officer (if relevant)</b>	<b>Supporting Officer (if relevant)</b>
Seb Valanko	

## Resolutions approved in 2025

Habitat restoration for diadromous fishes – best practices and impacts in stock assessment (9–11 June 2026)

### Resolution Form: Symposium



Before completing this resolution form, please review the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#). Once approved, all resolution information on this form will be made publicly available on the ICES website.

Resolution Term (yyyy-mm-dd)	
Start date is date of submission of the resolution form. End date is December 31 of the symposium year.	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2025-02-01	<b>End Date:</b> 2026-12-31

Symposium Title (character limit: 280)
Habitat restoration for diadromous fishes – best practices and impacts in stock assessment

Symposium Conveners (maximum 5 individuals)			
Full Name	Institute	Email	Country
Jenni Prokkola Senior scientist, research fellow	Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke), Oulu	jenni.prokkola@luke.fi	Finland
Raisa Nikula Research scientist	Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke), Oulu	raisa.nikula@luke.fi	Finland
Pauliina Louhi Principal scientist	Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke)	pauliina.louhi@luke.fi	Finland
Johan Höjesjö, Professor	Gothenburg University	johan.hojesjo@bioenv.gu.se	Sweden
Carlos Alexandre, Assistant Researcher	Marine and Environmental Sciences Centre (MARE), Universidade de Évora	cmea@uevora.pt	Portugal

**Symposium Website URL (if known)**

Not known yet: will be hosted either by the Natural Resources Institute Finland or University of Oulu

**Scientific Justification (character limit: 1500)**

Describe the aims, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of the symposium and the relevance of the symposium to the ICES [Science](#), [Advisory](#), and/or [Strategic](#) Plans

Significant ecosystem changes resulting from climate and land-use alterations often have severe negative impacts on diadromous species. Strong declines in stock sizes and diminishing of fishing opportunities have already occurred for example in Atlantic salmon, European eel, sea trout, and sea lamprey across their range. Securing future fishing opportunities, and survival of diadromous fish populations depends on enhancing their recruitment and reproduction. Habitat restoration plays a crucial role in the solution, improving the availability and quality of freshwater habitats to support fish populations.

Despite the long history of restoration work to improve habitats of diadromous species, outcomes of restoration actions do not always meet expectations. Further, restoration guidelines are often driven by intuition rather than scientific evidence, with lack of suitable prioritization, limited monitoring and inadequate attention to the key factors affecting fish habitat bottlenecks. With the implementation of the EU Habitat Restoration Law, Water Framework Directive and other initiatives, a significant increase in restoration efforts is anticipated. This calls for a review of successful restoration practices, and of the effects of restoration on fish stock assessments and on advice on fishing opportunities. For instance, a time lag between habitat restoration and the observed improvement in fish populations is always expected and should be accounted for. Specifically, there is a need for guidelines on incorporating restoration outcomes into diadromous species stock assessments to ensure consistent principles are applied across different species and regions.

This symposium is aimed at experts and scientists involved in habitat restoration and those interested in the broader impacts of restoration on diadromous stocks and fishing opportunities. The goal is to synthesize evidence of both restoration success and failure and to develop science-based guidelines for better integrating restoration into assessment work. We will publish an output of the symposium to address how restoration is considered in scientific advisory process, as there is a need to improve how ICES is providing conservation-related advice. We are also seeking to publish a special issue of scientific peer-reviewed publications as an additional outcome.

The symposium aligns with all goals of the ICES strategic plan, particularly *Advancing ecosystem understanding*. It also perfectly matches the Science plan priorities, especially *Conservation and management science*, which encapsulates the aim (to) *Develop tools, knowledge, and evidence for conservation and management — to provide more and better options to help managers set and meet objectives*, as well as the priorities *Ecosystem science* and *Impacts of human activities*. By producing guidelines that ensure the best available science is transparently incorporated into restoration measures, the symposium promotes ICES advice principles, specifically *Principle 1* and *Principle 5*.

<b>Symposium Dates (yyyy-mm-dd)</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2026-06-09	<b>End Date:</b> 2026-06-11

<b>Venue</b> (e.g. conference centre, hotel)	<b>Format</b> (in-person, virtual, hybrid)	<b>Expected Number of Participants</b>
University of Oulu campus, Linnanmaa, Oulu	in-person, possibly hybrid	50-100

<b>City/Town</b>	<b>Country</b>
Oulu	Finland

<p><b>Comments on dates, timeline, venue, location, and participants (character limit: 500)</b></p> <p>For example, if any of the symposium details are tentative, provide potential timeline dates (month/year of abstract submission, registration, etc.), expected duration (number of days), venue[s] and location[s] under consideration</p> <p>The ideal duration is three full symposium days, on June 9-11, 2026, flanked with arrival and departure days. Mid-June in Finland is well suited for an excursion to restoration sites, and there is minimal overlap with holiday seasons and the busiest research field work period.</p> <p>Abstract submission is in Jan-Feb 2026.</p> <p>Venue is University of Oulu campus. Oulu is well connected to Helsinki international airport via flights and trains, and nearby numerous active restoration sites. The campus is easily accessible from city centre.</p>
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<p><b>Symposium Programme (character limit: 1500)</b></p> <p>Briefly describe the symposium programme, including any pre- or post-symposium workshops, training, early career activities, and other coordinated events</p>
<p><b>Preliminary programme:</b></p> <p><b>Monday</b></p> <p>PM: Arrival to the venue and registration Evening: Early career researcher get-together</p> <p><b>Tuesday</b></p>

**Science day**

AM-PM Scientific presentations: Two keynote speakers (30 min each) and attendee presentations on case studies, with time reserved for discussion between presentations.

Poster and speed-talk session.

**Wednesday****Assessment and advice day**

AM: Keynote presentation (30 min) and case studies (15 min).

PM: Formatting a draft of guidelines for considering habitat restoration in stock assessment and in advice on fishing opportunities for diadromous fishes. The attendees discuss areas of the guidelines in smaller groups and plan the writing with coordination from the conveners.

Evening: A guided tour to Hupisaaret City Park, where streams were restored in 2017-2018, and native brown trout have been successfully reintroduced & joint dinner

**Thursday****Science, advice, and excursion**

AM: Panel discussion between scientists, ICES representative, and experts working towards the national implementation plans. The scientific steering group presents a plan for special issue of the symposium presentations, and presentations selected from abstracts are continued.

PM: Field trip to restored fish habitats e.g. in River Iijoki watershed, and presentation of research projects at site.

**Friday**

Departure

**Acronym[s] of ICES Working Groups, Strategic Initiatives, Steering Groups, Operational Groups, and other groups contributing to the symposium (optional)**

WGDIAD, WGTRUTTA, WGNAS, WGBAST, WGEEL, WKREST

The symposium addresses the new ToRs of WGDIAD for 2025-2027, and as an activity in the ToRs of WGTRUTTA. In addition to symposium/workshop, published output of guidelines for Advice was included in the WGDIAD ToRs.

**Contributions by ICES representatives (character limit: 1500)**

It is expected that scientists affiliated to ICES working groups and Secretariat professional staff are included in the scientific steering committee and represented in the organizing committee of co-sponsored symposia and, where necessary, for endorsement-only symposia (see Section 2.1, [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#)).

Please provide the following additional information: How will ICES representatives contribute to the planning and organization of the symposium? Members of the ICES community may, for instance, act as conveners or session chairs; serve on the planning board, scientific committee, or organizing committees; and assist with the selection of plenary speakers, awards recipients, or early career support.

Additionally, if ICES representatives are already involved in the symposium, please provide this information.

ICES representatives are contributing to all stages of the symposium planning and execution. Several members of the conveners, and scientific and organising committees will be from ICES working groups. Conveners: Jenni Prokkola is the chair of WGDIAD and a member of WGBAST, and Pauliina Louhi is a member of WGTRUTTA and WGBAST, Johan Höjesjö is the chair of WGTRUTTA and member of WGDIAD, and Carlos Alexandre is a member of WGTRUTTA and WGDIAD. In addition, the scientific committee of the symposium includes ICES representatives: Alan Walker is the chair of WGTRUTTA and chair of WGNAS, and a member of WGDIAD, Johan Dannewitz is a member of WGBAST and WGDIAD, Joana Portugal and Karen Wilson are members of WGDIAD. A representative from the ICES secretariat will be included in the scientific committee.

**Resource Request (character limit: 1500)**

Before completing this section, conveners should read the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#); particularly sections 1.2 and 1.3, which outline the types of financial, coordination, and technical support that ICES can provide. The support options depend on whether you are seeking ICES co-sponsorship or only its endorsement.

Please list all items requested of ICES in support of the symposium. Include specifics of any financial request, assistance with early career support applications, symposium registration, advertising, website, plans to use the ICES logo, etc. Clearly identify and describe requests that will require ICES Secretariat to commit time and staff – e.g., coordination, meeting documents, agenda, programmes, technical support, on-site participation, etc. – so ICES can accurately assess its ability to fulfil the requests.

We apply for the full contribution of ICES to this symposium including:

- financial contribution of 10 000 euros towards early career researcher attendance,
- use of ICES logo in materials.
- The secretariat help is also appreciated in coordination,
- assistance in planning of the agenda and programme as part of the scientific steering committee, and
- if feasible, on-site participation in the symposium.

The Early Career Researcher support would be spent on travel grants to cover attendance and travel grants to ECRs to attend the symposium (max. contribution 1000 euros /person) and distributed by ICES according to their principles (to grantees selected by the scientific committee).

#### **Additional Funding Sources/Sponsors (character limit: 1500)**

List all current, pending, and to-be-requested support from other sources: businesses, universities, national funds, etc. Please note that no information on funding is needed for endorsement-only requests.

To-be-requested and pending funding sources:

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland (pending, 10000 euros)

Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke), (support in local organisation, and hosting of registration and website)

University of Oulu, Profi8 SAFIRE programme, contributes to both organising and funding of the event

Ministry of Environment, Finland (pending)

Finnish Cultural foundation (pending)

We will also apply for funding from Finnish foundations and stakeholders, e.g., Maj and Tor Näsling foundation, and city of Oulu

Fisheries Society of the British Isles (4000 euros, pending)

#### **Plans for Publication of the Proceedings**

Specify potential publication outlet[s] below. For specific information on publishing proceedings in the ICES Journal of Marine Science (IJMS), refer to section 2.5 and Annex 4 of [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#).

Publication intended (specify): A publication on recommendations intended for diadromous species working groups, advice groups, and ACOM, as well as a special issue in a scientific journal (TBD) on scientific case studies

No publication intended

## **General Information**

#### **Resolution Status (select one)**

**New resolution**

This resolution has not been previously approved by the Advisory Committee (ACOM), Science Committee (SCICOM), and/or ICES Council

**Amendment to an approved resolution**

This is a change to a currently active resolution that has been approved previously. Common amendments include changes to conveners, updates to symposium dates or venue, and term extensions following unavoidable delays.

**One-Sentence Summary (character limit: 280)**

Describe the main purpose of this resolution in plain language that can be readily understood by non-experts. Use the active voice and avoid jargon. This summary will be used on the ICES website and social media channels.

Co-sponsorship of a symposium on habitat restoration science to support stocks of migratory fishes

**ICES Advisory Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)**

**Priority 1:** Evolving advice

**Priority 2:** Sharing evidence

**ICES Science Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)**

**Priority 1:** Conservation and management science

**Priority 2:** Ecosystem science

**Additional Comments (character limit: 500) (optional)**

Restrict comments to those that are required to understand and review this resolution and for which there is no existing box on the form (e.g. request for a special resolution term duration)

The details of the symposium and the partners are currently being planned, and are therefore subject to small changes, but we would be pleased to include ICES in the planning of the details. EIFAAC has been invited to support the initiative, pending agreement.

**Geographic Focus (select at least one)**

**Non-Geospecific**

Select this option when the resolution is not closely focused on a specific geographic region. For instance, symposia focused on techniques or processes typically fall under 'non-geospecific'.

ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions	Areas outside ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions
<input type="checkbox"/> Adriatic Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Aegean-Levantine Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Ocean <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northeast (FAO area 27) <input type="checkbox"/> Azores <input type="checkbox"/> Baltic Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Barents Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast <input type="checkbox"/> Black Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Celtic Seas <input type="checkbox"/> Faroes <input type="checkbox"/> Greater North Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Greenland Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Icelandic Waters <input type="checkbox"/> Ionian Sea and the Central Mediterranean Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Norwegian Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Oceanic Northeast Atlantic <input type="checkbox"/> Western Mediterranean Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Sea (FAO area 18) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Antarctic (FAO area 48) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Eastern Central (FAO area 34) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northwest (FAO area 21) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southeast (FAO area 47) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southwest (FAO area 41) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Western Central (FAO area 31) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Antarctic and Southern (FAO area 58) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Eastern (FAO area 57) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Western (FAO area 51) <input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean and Black Sea (FAO area 37) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Antarctic (FAO area 88) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Eastern Central (FAO area 77) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northeast (FAO area 67) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northwest (FAO area 61) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southeast (FAO area 87) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southwest (FAO area 81) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Western Central (FAO area 71)

**Close Links to Other Organizations (where relevant)**

Select scientific cooperation, agreements, partnerships, or other close links from the list below. Other links can be specified at the bottom of this table, but please restrict your list to pertinent organizations that are closely associated with this resolution.

**No close links to other organizations**

**United Nations Organizations and Programmes**

- European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- International Sea bed Authority (ISA)
- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- UN Environment (UNEP)
- UN Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC)

#### **European Commission and its Agencies**

- European Commission (EC)
- European Environment Agency (EEA)
- European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)
- Joint Research Council (JRC)
- Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs)
- Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT)

#### **Regional Fisheries Organisations and Management Organizations (RFOs/RFMOs)**

- General Fisheries Commission in the Mediterranean (GFCM)
- International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
- North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO)
- North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)
- Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)

#### **Regional Sea Conventions**

- Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM)
- Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)

#### **Arctic Networks**

- Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)
- Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)
- International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)

<input type="checkbox"/> Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment Working Group (PAME)
<b>Scientific Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM)
<input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO)
<input type="checkbox"/> North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)
<b>Other</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> European Aquaculture Society (EAS)
<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Marine Biosphere Research project (IMBeR)

Other organizations not listed above (if relevant)	
Society for Ecological Restoration (pending)	
Vesistökunnostusverkosto (Finnish network for restoration of aquatic habitats) (pending)	
NASCO - pending	

## ICES Secretariat to complete the information below

Unique Identifier
Include the auto-generated identifier when the <u>approved</u> resolution is added to the resolution database
2025/SYM/SCICOM02

Resolution Parent (select one)
Symposia should generally select SCICOM
SCICOM

Professional Officer (if relevant)	Supporting Officer (if relevant)
Anne Cooper	Samuel Noringriis

Oceans Past XI: Ocean-Connected Communities, past, present and future (6–10 July 2026)

## Resolution Form: Symposium



Before completing this resolution form, please review the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#). Once approved, all resolution information on this form will be made publicly available on the ICES website.

### Resolution Term (yyyy-mm-dd)

Start date is date of submission of the resolution form. End date is December 31 of the symposium year.

**Start Date:** 2025-01-30

**End Date:** 2026-12-31

### Symposium Title (character limit: 280)

Oceans Past XI: Ocean-Connected Communities, past, present and future.

### Symposium Conveners (maximum 5 individuals)

Full Name	Institute	Email	Country
Dr Loren McClenachan	University of Victoria	lorenm@uvic.ca	Canada
Prof Jason Colby	University of Victoria	jcolby@uvic.ca	Canada
Dr Iain McKechnie	University of Victoria	iim@uvic.ca	Canada
Dr Ruth Thurstan	University of Exeter	r.thurstan@exeter.ac.uk	UK
Dr Andre Colonese	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	AndreCarlo.Colonese@uab.cat	Spain

### Symposium Website URL (if known)

<https://oceanspast.org/> - please note the website is being updated and will be relaunched in March/April

### Scientific Justification (character limit: 1500)

Describe the aims, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of the symposium and the relevance of the symposium to the ICES [Science](#), [Advisory](#), and/or [Strategic](#) Plans

The Oceans Past Initiative (OPI) is a global network that aims to enhance interdisciplinary understanding of past changes in marine ecosystems, ocean-societal interactions, and their outcomes, to illuminate the full suite of possible futures. **This broad, inclusive focus aligns with critical challenges and themes**

**identified in the 2025 Science Plan.** Specifically, the need for sound understanding of ecosystem functioning and resilience to change (*Marine Ecosystem Science*), assessing effects of our activities (*Impacts of human activities*), building evidence of fishery dynamics and contributions (*Food from the Sea*), assessing ecosystem status and trends (*Conservation & Restoration Science*), assessing ocean contributions to wellbeing, heritage and identities, and imagining alternate futures (*Sea and Society*).

OPXI will be held at the University of Victoria (UVic) in Canada and will continue the successful run of international meetings to generate interdisciplinary understanding of past human-ocean interactions and future trajectories. The theme will be ‘Ocean-connected communities’. Objectives include connecting the OPI community, fostering dialogue with regional researchers and practitioners, and building partnerships with Indigenous Nations, a key strength of our local hosts.

Relevance: OPXI informs the ICES Science Priorities of Ecosystem Science [advancing understanding of marine ecosystem dynamics and societal connections], Impacts of Human Activities [elucidate present and future states], Seafood Production [past production and corresponding impacts] and Sea and Society [societal benefits through time], while bolstering ICES strategic partnerships in the North Pacific.

Symposium Dates (yyyy-mm-dd)	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2026-07-06	<b>End Date:</b> 2026-07-10

Venue (e.g. conference centre, hotel)	Format (in-person, virtual, hybrid)	Expected Number of Participants
University of Victoria	Hybrid	100

City/Town	Country
Victoria	Canada

Comments on dates, timeline, venue, location, and participants (character limit: 500)
For example, if any of the symposium details are tentative, provide potential timeline dates (month/year of abstract submission, registration, etc.), expected duration (number of days), venue[s] and location[s] under consideration
Proposed dates are June - July 2026, depending on venue and accommodation availability. Networking events, training and excursions will be included.
Feb-May 2025 – Budget and contracts for conference venue, catering, accommodations to be secured. Sponsorships and submissions for funding support, consultation with Indigenous advisors.

June 2025 – Announce conference dates, request for thematic submissions.

Oct 2025 – Opening of abstract submission and ECR funding requests.

Jan/Feb 2026 – Abstract, funding and keynote speaker confirmations.

Mar 2026 – Registration opens.

### **Symposium Programme (character limit: 1500)**

Briefly describe the symposium programme, including any pre- or post-symposium workshops, training, early career activities, and other coordinated events

The conference will run over five days, formed of a plenary session and surrounding activities. Multiple in-person/online formats will be offered, including full length talks, posters, speed (5 mins) and flash talks (2 mins focused on poster summaries). A poster network event and Early Career Awards will take place in a similar manner to OPX.

Networking, training and excursions are a key component of the programme. We will coordinate with local Indigenous peoples to facilitate representation e.g. via an Indigenous-led discussion panel. The convenors propose an Elder or Knowledge Keeper open the conference and will seek guidance on Indigenous cultural programming and possible routes to partnership e.g. excursions, Indigenous-owned catering. We will consult with regional marine science groups (e.g. Ocean Networks Canada, North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS), Hakai Institute, Pacific Biological Station, Pacific Salmon Foundation, Bamfield Marine Station) and ICES WGHIST on workshops and representation.

Training opportunities will take place pre-conference, to ensure dedicated time, and hosted by OPI Board, local hosts and partners (to approach) i.e. ICES WGHIST, above groups. Suggested sessions include *Enhancing interdisciplinary networks, Interdisciplinary working and publishing*.

The programme will include the following sessions:

- Ocean connections – trade, resources and identities
- Exploitation dynamics through time
- Outcomes of human-ocean interactions
- Societal benefits of marine ecosystems, past and present
- Indigenous ocean histories and cultures
- Ocean climate trajectories
- Past oceans for future policy: challenges and opportunities

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**Acronym[s] of ICES Working Groups, Strategic Initiatives, Steering Groups, Operational Groups, and other groups contributing to the symposium (optional)**

WGHIST – close connections are maintained between OPI and WGHIST

SIHD – to approach

**Contributions by ICES representatives (character limit: 1500)**

It is expected that scientists affiliated to ICES working groups and Secretariat professional staff are included in the scientific steering committee and represented in the organizing committee of co-sponsored symposia and, where necessary, for endorsement-only symposia (see Section 2.1, [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#)).

Please provide the following additional information: How will ICES representatives contribute to the planning and organization of the symposium? Members of the ICES community may, for instance, act as conveners or session chairs; serve on the planning board, scientific committee, or organizing committees; and assist with the selection of plenary speakers, awards recipients, or early career support.

Additionally, if ICES representatives are already involved in the symposium, please provide this information.

- Members of the 2026 convening panel have assigned a session dedicated to the challenges and opportunities in applying historical data to marine management and policy. We welcome ICES expertise and representation if your capacity allows.
- We have experience of working with the ICES Symposia team in selecting researchers for Early Career Support and we will ensure parity of support across disciplines, member states, and gender in consultation with the Symposia team.
- Help with identifying topics for training sessions pertinent to ECRs would be appreciated - we have feedback from prior conference ECR sessions to learn from and we have strong ECR representation on our Governing Board to ensure the early career voice is heard.
- We are keen to highlight the potential for publishing in the IJMS and its interdisciplinary remit (note we are considering submitting a Special Issue proposal, currently under development). Current experience and guidance on how researchers from outside traditional marine ecology disciplines can maximise opportunity to publish in IJMS and avoidance of common pitfalls to interdisciplinary publishing, would be a helpful resource if possible to arrange.

**Resource Request (character limit: 1500)**

Before completing this section, conveners should read the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#) ; particularly sections 1.2 and 1.3, which outline the types of financial, coordination, and technical

support that ICES can provide. The support options depend on whether you are seeking ICES co-sponsorship or only its endorsement.

Please list all items requested of ICES in support of the symposium. Include specifics of any financial request, assistance with early career support applications, symposium registration, advertising, website, plans to use the ICES logo, etc. Clearly identify and describe requests that will require ICES Secretariat to commit time and staff – e.g., coordination, meeting documents, agenda, programmes, technical support, on-site participation, etc. – so ICES can accurately assess its ability to fulfil the requests.

We seek financial support from ICES and other professional organizations to 1) subsidise attendance costs of early career researchers (ECRs) and 2) support ECR network events. We note OPI's members come in part from social science and humanities, with fewer grant opportunities and lower budgets for international travel. Successful inclusion of these groups is vital to the OPI and ICES goals of encouraging interdisciplinary collaborations, building partnerships, and understanding and supporting action towards sustainable marine social-ecological systems.

We therefore request 10,000 Euros from ICES to strengthen the participation of ECRs. These funds will be used to: subsidise registration, subsistence and accommodation costs for ECRs (8000€), and support a networking event in the early days of the conference that will enhance community building among ECRs, and present opportunities to meet potential mentors as well as peers (2000€). Please note, the networking event funds would be used solely to support ECR attendance by removing the cost of the networking event from their registration fees.

We also seek support from the ICES Communications team in advertising the conference across social media channels and the ICES website, and in identifying courses or events that may be of interest to Oceans Past conference attendees e.g., ECS training courses run by ICES that OPXI organisers could highlight to ECRs who may not be aware of these opportunities.

We seek the use of ICES logo on our website and social media prior to and during the conference.

#### **Additional Funding Sources/Sponsors (character limit: 1500)**

List all current, pending, and to-be-requested support from other sources: businesses, universities, national funds, etc. Please note that no information on funding is needed for endorsement-only requests.

We will use OPI funds (3000€) to fully support the attendance of two ECRs in financial need from the Global South.

In-kind support (venue cost, hybrid support, reduced accommodation rates) will be sought from the University of Victoria.

There are local organizations we will approach for support, including the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES) and Oceans Network Canada (ONC). The local organisers also plan to seek federal funding from the Canadian Social Sciences & Humanities Research, who provide matching funds up to a specified amount. Any funding obtained from these sources would be used to support ECR travel and to reduce registration costs by sponsoring meals, excursions, and networking events at the conference. We will apply for the event's endorsement by the Ocean Decade to expand its scope, dissemination, and broader policy implications.

### Plans for Publication of the Proceedings

Specify potential publication outlet[s] below. For specific information on publishing proceedings in the ICES Journal of Marine Science (IJMS), refer to section 2.5 and Annex 4 of [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#).

Publication intended (specify): The Board and local hosts are keen to develop a Special Issue aligned with the conference, this plan is currently in development]

No publication intended

## General Information

### Resolution Status (select one)

**New resolution**

This resolution has not been previously approved by the Advisory Committee (ACOM), Science Committee (SCICOM), and/or ICES Council

**Amendment to an approved resolution**

This is a change to a currently active resolution that has been approved previously. Common amendments include changes to conveners, updates to symposium dates or venue, and term extensions following unavoidable delays.

### One-Sentence Summary (character limit: 280)

Describe the main purpose of this resolution in plain language that can be readily understood by non-experts. Use the active voice and avoid jargon. This summary will be used on the ICES website and social media channels.

The Oceans Past Conference hosts interdisciplinary researchers and practitioners to better understand past human-ocean interactions and the consequences for ecosystems and societies, to inform future management and policy.

ICES Advisory Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)	
Priority 1: Identifying needs	Priority 2: Choose an item.

ICES Science Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)	
Priority 1: Impacts of human activities	Priority 2: Sea and society

Additional Comments (character limit: 500) (optional)
Restrict comments to those that are required to understand and review this resolution <u>and</u> for which there is no existing box on the form (e.g. request for a special resolution term duration)

Geographic Focus (select at least one)
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Non-Geospecific</b> Select this option when the resolution is not closely focused on a specific geographic region. For instance, symposia focused on techniques or processes typically fall under ‘non-geospecific’.
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ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions	Areas outside ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions
<input type="checkbox"/> Adriatic Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Aegean-Levantine Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Ocean <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northeast (FAO area 27) <input type="checkbox"/> Azores <input type="checkbox"/> Baltic Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Barents Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast <input type="checkbox"/> Black Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Celtic Seas <input type="checkbox"/> Faroes	<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Sea (FAO area 18) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Antarctic (FAO area 48) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Eastern Central (FAO area 34) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northwest (FAO area 21) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southeast (FAO area 47) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southwest (FAO area 41) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Western Central (FAO area 31) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Antarctic and Southern (FAO area 58) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Eastern (FAO area 57) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Western (FAO area 51) <input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean and Black Sea (FAO area 37)

<input type="checkbox"/> Greater North Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Greenland Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Icelandic Waters <input type="checkbox"/> Ionian Sea and the Central Mediterranean Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Norwegian Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Oceanic Northeast Atlantic <input type="checkbox"/> Western Mediterranean Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Antarctic (FAO area 88) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Eastern Central (FAO area 77) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northeast (FAO area 67) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northwest (FAO area 61) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southeast (FAO area 87) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southwest (FAO area 81) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Western Central (FAO area 71)
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**Close Links to Other Organizations (where relevant)**

Select scientific cooperation, agreements, partnerships, or other close links from the list below. Other links can be specified at the bottom of this table, but please restrict your list to pertinent organizations that are closely associated with this resolution.

**No close links to other organizations**

**United Nations Organizations and Programmes**

- European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- International Sea bed Authority (ISA)
- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- UN Environment (UNEP)
- UN Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC)

**European Commission and its Agencies**

- European Commission (EC)
- European Environment Agency (EEA)
- European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)
- Joint Research Council (JRC)
- Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs)

<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT)
--

<p><b>Regional Fisheries Organisations and Management Organizations (RFOs/RFMOs)</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> General Fisheries Commission in the Mediterranean (GFCM)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)</p>
<p><b>Regional Sea Conventions</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)</p>
<p><b>Arctic Networks</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment Working Group (PAME)</p>
<p><b>Scientific Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)</p>
<p><b>Other</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> European Aquaculture Society (EAS)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Marine Biosphere Research project (IMBeR)</p>

<b>Other organizations not listed above (if relevant)</b>	

**ICES Secretariat to complete the information below**

<b>Unique Identifier</b>
Include the auto-generated identifier when the <u>approved</u> resolution is added to the resolution database
2025/SYM/SCICOM03

<b>Resolution Parent (select one)</b>
Symposia should generally select SCICOM
SCICOM

<b>Professional Officer (if relevant)</b>	<b>Supporting Officer (if relevant)</b>
Chris Lynam	Marta Majewska

The International Institute of Fisheries Economics & Trade (IIFET) 2026 Conference (17–21 August 2026)

## Resolution Form: Symposium



Before completing this resolution form, please review the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#). Once approved, all resolution information on this form will be made publicly available on the ICES website.

<b>Resolution Term (yyyy-mm-dd)</b>	
Start date is date of submission of the resolution form. End date is December 31 of the symposium year.	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2025-02-01	<b>End Date:</b> 2026-12-31

<b>Symposium Title (character limit: 280)</b>
The International Institute of Fisheries Economics & Trade (IIFET) 2026 Conference

<b>Symposium Conveners (maximum 5 individuals)</b>			
<b>Full Name</b>	<b>Institute</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Country</b>
Hirotsugu Uchida	IIFET President	huchida@uri.edu	USA

Hans Ellefsen	University of the Faroe Islands	hanse@setur.fo	Faroe Islands
Olivier Thébaud	Ifremer	olivier.thebaud@ifremer.fr	FR
Angela Muench	CEFAS	angela.muench@cefass.gov.uk	UK

#### Symposium Website URL (if known)

The symposium website will be hosted by IIFET, the URL is not yet known. The overarching IIFET site is hosted at <https://iifet.oregonstate.edu/>

#### Scientific Justification (character limit: 1500)

Describe the aims, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of the symposium and the relevance of the symposium to the ICES [Science](#), [Advisory](#), and/or [Strategic](#) Plans

The International Institute of Fisheries Economics & Trade (IIFET) was founded in 1982 to promote interaction and exchange between people from all countries and professional disciplines about marine resource economics and trade issues. Industry members, government and academic researchers, and managers from over 60 countries benefit from membership in IIFET's network. The IIFET conference is hosted every two years, and is attended by fisheries economists and other social scientists, managers, and industry members from all of the world's fishing areas. IIFET conferences provide participants with unparalleled opportunities to interact with the world's foremost fisheries economists in both formal and informal settings.

The next IIFET conference will be organised by the University of the Faroe Islands, in Tórshavn, Faroe Islands, from 17-21 August 2026, bringing the IIFET network to the North Atlantic again, and providing a unique opportunity to strengthen the collaborations with the ICES science and advice community.

Although the scientific programme is yet to be developed, the draft list of focus topics aligns tightly with ICES Science Priorities (2019), as detailed below.

- Fisheries Management and Sustainability (Science Plan code 6.4, 7.3)
- Aquaculture (Science Plan code 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 7.1)
- Seafood Markets (Science Plan code 5.8)
- Modelling Fisheries: Bioeconomic and Other Models (Science Plan code 2.7, 4.3)
- Recreational Fisheries and Tourism (Science Plan code 5.4, 7.1)
- Ecosystem-based Management and Marine Spatial Planning (Science plan code 2.7, 4.5, 5.3, 6.2, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 7.1, 7.3, 7.4, 7.6)
- Small-scale and Developing County Fisheries (Science Plan code 5.4, 7.7)
- A Changing Political and Environmental Climate (Science Plan code 6.1, 6.3, 7.4, 7.6)

In addition to the above alignment with the Science Plan, the IIFET conference aligns with the Advisory Plan Priority, particularly by identifying disciplines and institutions that could collaborate with ICES and improve and add context to ICES advice. IIFET members have expertise that would be valuable to ICES on issues including methods and tools for trade-off analyses, the inclusion of economic dimensions in fisheries management, and informing marine spatial planning. The conference's focus on ecosystem-based management aligns strongly with the ICES Science, Advisory and Strategic Plans, particularly with respect to incorporating economic dimensions, while also taking into account broader social and cultural information.

The IIFET conference supports Early Career Researchers (ECRs), including a Best Student Paper Award, pre-conference workshops, and networking events which are well aligned with the ICES Strategic Initiative on the Inclusion of Early Career Scientists (SII ECS). The IIFET Executive Committee has also been developing a mentoring program for early career researchers which will be initiated during the 2026 conference. By supporting Early Career Researcher participation in the conference, ICES support would be instrumental in initiating this program, which could lead to identifying a network of ECRs invested in the ICES community. The aim of this program is to strengthen the capacity to integrate economic dimensions in ICES science and advice, a key challenge which has been identified by ICES working group on economics (WGECON) and its Human Dimensions Steering Group. IIFET also encourages diverse, equitable and inclusive participation in the conference and supports the participation of many developing country researchers.

<b>Symposium Dates (yyyy-mm-dd)</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2026-08-17	<b>End Date:</b> 2026-08-21

<b>Venue</b> (e.g. conference centre, hotel)	<b>Format</b> (in-person, virtual, hybrid)	<b>Expected Number of Participants</b>
The Nordic House	In-person	350

<b>City/Town</b>	<b>Country</b>
Tórshavn	Faroe Islands

<b>Comments on dates, timeline, venue, location, and participants (character limit: 500)</b>
For example, if any of the symposium details are tentative, provide potential timeline dates (month/year of abstract submission, registration, etc.), expected duration (number of days), venue[s] and location[s] under consideration
The 2026 IIFET Conference will be hosted at the Nordic House in Tórshavn, Faroe Islands ( <a href="https://www.nlh.fo/en">https://www.nlh.fo/en</a> ) August 17-21, 2026. Tentative timeline for the development of the scientific programme is as follows:

October, 2025 – Special Session proposal submission window  
 November, 2025 – February, 2026 – Abstract submission window  
 March, 2026 – Best Paper Award submission deadline  
 April, 2026 – Registration opens

June, 2026 – Early Bird Registration closes

July, 2026 – Regular Registration closes (presenter deadline); Late Registration begins

Predicting attendance for an IIFET conference can be challenging due to significant variations. For reference, here is the participation breakdown from ***IIFET 2024 Penang***:

- 344 total registrants from 49 countries
  - 43% from 27 Low/Middle/Upper-Middle Income countries
  - 37% from 22 High-Income countries
  - 20% students, representing 24 countries
  - 47% women; 52% men

The program featured:

- 54 concurrent sessions with 278 oral presentations
- 13 poster presentations
- 9 keynote speakers
- 4 pre-conference workshops

#### **Symposium Programme (character limit: 1500)**

Briefly describe the symposium programme, including any pre- or post-symposium workshops, training, early career activities, and other coordinated events

Monday, August 17 – Pre-conference workshop; Welcome reception, including an early-career researcher networking component.

Tuesday, August 18 –Wednesday, August 19 – Poster Session

Thursday, August 20 – Gala Dinner

Tuesday, August 18 – Thursday, August 20 – Concurrent and special sessions

Friday, August 21 – Fishery-focused excursions

In addition to the general program structure, the IIFET conference will host a session jointly developed with ICES WGECOM and SCICOM members, and in collaboration with the IIFET Executive Committee, on a topic of common interest across IIFET, ICES and the Faroe Islands. Given the location in the Faroe Islands and the rich and diverse economics and social science experience of IIFET participants, we intend to develop a session that aims to improve ecosystem-based management (EBM) management tools. Specifically, ecological, social, and economic information are all important to achieving EBM

goals. However, there are scientific, data, and communications challenges of making trade-offs over these domains. The outputs from this session can provide valuable input to ICES EBM process in general and FEISA approach. We will invite and welcome a diversity of fisheries managers to the session to ensure that the session is practical and relevant to ICES advice as well as science.

**Acronym[s] of ICES Working Groups, Strategic Initiatives, Steering Groups, Operational Groups, and other groups contributing to the symposium (optional)**

WGECON, WGSOCIAL, WGENGAGE, HUDISG, EAMSG, ASG, WGSEDA, WGECCA, WGFSN, WGREIA, WGAAW

**Contributions by ICES representatives (character limit: 1500)**

It is expected that scientists affiliated to ICES working groups and Secretariat professional staff are included in the scientific steering committee and represented in the organizing committee of co-sponsored symposia and, where necessary, for endorsement-only symposia (see Section 2.1, [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#)).

Please provide the following additional information: How will ICES representatives contribute to the planning and organization of the symposium? Members of the ICES community may, for instance, act as conveners or session chairs; serve on the planning board, scientific committee, or organizing committees; and assist with the selection of plenary speakers, awards recipients, or early career support.

Additionally, if ICES representatives are already involved in the symposium, please provide this information.

Past ICES WGECON co-Chair and current member Olivier Thebaud was IIFET President when the Faroe Islands was chosen as the host for the 2026 IIFET conference. Current WGECON co-Chair Angela Muench is on the IIFET Executive Committee. Angela, Olivier, and current WGECON co-Chair Geret DePiper will all serve on the IIFET Scientific Committee and help develop the agenda and scientific programme for the IIFET Conference. This collaboration will include the participation in selecting awards recipients, and co-sponsor symposia. Members of the working groups with HUDISG (e.g. WGSOCIAL, WGENGAGE) usually attend the conference and present their latest work.

**Resource Request (character limit: 1500)**

Before completing this section, conveners should read the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#); particularly sections 1.2 and 1.3, which outline the types of financial, coordination, and technical support that ICES can provide. The support options depend on whether you are seeking ICES co-sponsorship or only its endorsement.

Please list all items requested of ICES in support of the symposium. Include specifics of any financial request, assistance with early career support applications, symposium registration, advertising, website, plans to use the ICES logo, etc. Clearly identify and describe requests that will require ICES Secretariat to commit time and staff – e.g., coordination, meeting documents, agenda, programmes, technical support, on-site participation, etc. – so ICES can accurately assess its ability to fulfil the requests.

We are requesting ICES co-sponsorship of the 2026 IIFET Conference, to include the following:

- Financial support. ICES co-funding to support the participation of early career scientists (10 000 euro) who would be attending, and potentially participating in the new mentoring program IIFET hopes to launch in conjunction with the 2026 conference;
- Provision of ICES logo for use on symposium materials;
- Promoting the symposium through ICES social media channels.

#### **Additional Funding Sources/Sponsors (character limit: 1500)**

List all current, pending, and to-be-requested support from other sources: businesses, universities, national funds, etc. Please note that no information on funding is needed for endorsement-only requests.

University of the Faroe Islands  
 Visit Faroe Islands  
 Municipality of Tórshavn  
 GRÓ Fisheries Training Programme  
 NOAA  
 Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
 OECD

#### **Plans for Publication of the Proceedings**

Specify potential publication outlet[s] below. For specific information on publishing proceedings in the ICES Journal of Marine Science (IJMS), refer to section 2.5 and Annex 4 of [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#).

- Publication intended (specify): IIFET 2026 Proceedings
- No publication intended

## **General Information**

**Resolution Status (select one)**

**New resolution**

This resolution has not been previously approved by the Advisory Committee (ACOM), Science Committee (SCICOM), and/or ICES Council

 **Amendment to an approved resolution**

This is a change to a currently active resolution that has been approved previously. Common amendments include changes to conveners, updates to symposium dates or venue, and term extensions following unavoidable delays.

**One-Sentence Summary (character limit: 280)**

Describe the main purpose of this resolution in plain language that can be readily understood by non-experts. Use the active voice and avoid jargon. This summary will be used on the ICES website and social media channels.

We aim to increase the capacity of ICES in developing, integrating, and delivering social and economic models, information, and analyses into scientific and advisory products.

**ICES Advisory Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)**

**Priority 1:** Evolving advice

**Priority 2:** Identifying needs

**ICES Science Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)**

**Priority 1:** Sea and society

**Priority 2:** Seafood production

**Additional Comments (character limit: 500) (optional)**

Restrict comments to those that are required to understand and review this resolution and for which there is no existing box on the form (e.g. request for a special resolution term duration)

**Geographic Focus (select at least one)** **Non-Geospecific**

Select this option when the resolution is not closely focused on a specific geographic region. For instance, symposia focused on techniques or processes typically fall under ‘non-geospecific’.

<b>ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions</b>	<b>Areas outside ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Adriatic Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Aegean-Levantine Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Ocean <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northeast (FAO area 27) <input type="checkbox"/> Azores <input type="checkbox"/> Baltic Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Barents Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast <input type="checkbox"/> Black Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Celtic Seas <input type="checkbox"/> Faroes <input type="checkbox"/> Greater North Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Greenland Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Icelandic Waters <input type="checkbox"/> Ionian Sea and the Central Mediterranean Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Norwegian Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Oceanic Northeast Atlantic <input type="checkbox"/> Western Mediterranean Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Sea (FAO area 18) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Antarctic (FAO area 48) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Eastern Central (FAO area 34) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northwest (FAO area 21) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southeast (FAO area 47) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southwest (FAO area 41) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Western Central (FAO area 31) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Antarctic and Southern (FAO area 58) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Eastern (FAO area 57) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Western (FAO area 51) <input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean and Black Sea (FAO area 37) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Antarctic (FAO area 88) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Eastern Central (FAO area 77) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northeast (FAO area 67) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northwest (FAO area 61) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southeast (FAO area 87) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southwest (FAO area 81) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Western Central (FAO area 71)

**Close Links to Other Organizations (where relevant)**

Select scientific cooperation, agreements, partnerships, or other close links from the list below. Other links can be specified at the bottom of this table, but please restrict your list to pertinent organizations that are closely associated with this resolution.

**No close links to other organizations**

**United Nations Organizations and Programmes**

- European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- International Sea bed Authority (ISA)
- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- UN Environment (UNEP)
- UN Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC)

**European Commission and its Agencies**

- European Commission (EC)
- European Environment Agency (EEA)
- European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)
- Joint Research Council (JRC)
- Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs)
- Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT)

**Regional Fisheries Organisations and Management Organizations (RFOs/RFMOs)**

- General Fisheries Commission in the Mediterranean (GFCM)
- International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
- North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO)
- North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)
- Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)

**Regional Sea Conventions**

- Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM)
- Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)

**Arctic Networks**

- Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)

<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) <input type="checkbox"/> International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) <input type="checkbox"/> Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment Working Group (PAME)
<b>Scientific Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM) <input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO) <input type="checkbox"/> North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)
<b>Other</b> <input type="checkbox"/> European Aquaculture Society (EAS) <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Marine Biosphere Research project (IMBeR)

Other organizations not listed above (if relevant)	
IIFET	OECD
U.S. NOAA Fisheries	NISEA
Fisheries and Oceans Canada	NOFIMA
New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries	Norwegian College of Fishery Science
I University of Copenhagen & University of Southern Denmark IFREMER Visit Faroe Islands GRÓ Fisheries Training Programme	Sea Fish Industry Authority WorldFish University of the Faroe Islands Municipality of Tórshavn

**ICES Secretariat to complete the information below**

<b>Unique Identifier</b> Include the auto-generated identifier when the <u>approved</u> resolution is added to the resolution database
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2025/SYM/SCICOM04
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<b>Resolution Parent (select one)</b>
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Symposia should generally select SCICOM
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SCICOM
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<b>Professional Officer (if relevant)</b>	<b>Supporting Officer (if relevant)</b>
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Chris Lynam	Barbora Valach-Rasul
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Advancing Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTO): Integrating Socio-Ecological Data, Models, and Applications for Sustainable Marine Management and Policy (21–22 October 2026)

## Resolution Form: Symposium



Before completing this resolution form, please review the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#). Once approved, all resolution information on this form will be made publicly available on the ICES website.

<b>Resolution Term (yyyy-mm-dd)</b>
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Start date is date of submission of the resolution form. End date is December 31 of the symposium year.
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<b>Start Date:</b> 2025-01-31	<b>End Date:</b> 2026-12-31
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<b>Symposium Title (character limit: 280)</b>
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Advancing Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTO): Integrating Socio-Ecological Data, Models, and Applications for Sustainable Marine Management and Policy
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<b>Symposium Conveners (maximum 5 individuals)</b>
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Full Name	Institute	Email	Country
Henning Sten Hansen	Aalborg University Copenhagen	<a href="mailto:hsh@plan.aau.dk">hsh@plan.aau.dk</a>	Denmark
Lara Veylit	SINTEF Ocean	<a href="mailto:lara.veylit@sintef.no">lara.veylit@sintef.no</a>	Norway
Patrycja Antosz	NORCE Norwegian Research Centre AS:	<a href="mailto:paan@norceresearch.no">paan@norceresearch.no</a>	Norway

	Centre for Modelling Social Systems		
Biswajit Basu	Trinity College Dublin	<a href="mailto:basub@tcd.ie">basub@tcd.ie</a>	Ireland

<b>Symposium Website URL (if known)</b>
Will be published on respective project websites and LinkedIn.

<b>Scientific Justification (character limit: 1500)</b>
Describe the aims, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of the symposium <u>and</u> the relevance of the symposium to the ICES <a href="#">Science</a> , <a href="#">Advisory</a> , and/or <a href="#">Strategic</a> Plans
<p>This symposium advances socio-ecological models in the European Digital Twin Ocean (EU DTO), demonstrating the relevance of ECOTWIN, SEADOTs, SURIMI, and SEADITO, and their alignment with ICES Science, Advisory, and Strategic Plans. It fosters collaboration among disciplines, stakeholders, the ICES data centre, and working groups, including WGMPCZM, WGOWDF, WGSEDA, WGSOCIAL, WGECON, WGBESEO, WGSAM, and WGCEAM, addressing key marine management challenges.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Showcase socio-ecological modelling techniques (e.g., graph theory, generative AI, Bayesian statistics) for marine spatial planning, assessing human impacts such as offshore wind development, fisheries, and ecosystem service changes.</li> <li>2. Highlight FAIR-compliant decision-support tools for scenario analysis of environmental changes, human activities, and policy implementation.</li> <li>3. Strengthen multi-actor processes by integrating policymakers, marine industries, and local communities in co-designing ecosystem-based management (EBM) solutions.</li> </ol> <p>Key outcomes include spatially explicit DTO-compatible models, dynamic scenario toolkits, and educational resources to enhance ICES advisory services. These tools will help member states address offshore wind expansion, human pressure mitigation, and ecosystem resilience.</p> <p>Aligned with ICES priorities in Ecosystem Science, Observation, and Sea and Society, the symposium strengthens the science-policy interface, supports the EU Mission “Restore our Ocean and Waters,” and advances Destination Earth, balancing ocean health with a thriving blue economy.</p>

<b>Symposium Dates (yyyy-mm-dd)</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2026-10-21	<b>End Date:</b> 2026-10-22

<b>Venue</b> (e.g. conference centre, hotel)	<b>Format</b> (in-person, virtual, hybrid)	<b>Expected Number of Participants</b>
Aalborg University campus Copenhagen	In person / hybrid	150

City/Town	Country
Copenhagen	Denmark

**Comments on dates, timeline, venue, location, and participants (character limit: 500)**

For example, if any of the symposium details are tentative, provide potential timeline dates (month/year of abstract submission, registration, etc.), expected duration (number of days), venue[s] and location[s] under consideration

Symposium Dates (yyyy-mm-dd)

Start Date: 2026-10-21

End Date: 2026-10-22

The proposed dates are tentative for now, but we aim at October / November 2026. The symposium will be organised and convened by four sibling projects—ECOTWIN, SEADOTs, SURIMI, and SEADITO which plan to have their annually general assembly (GA) in conjunction with a symposium that showcases results and brings them for discussion to a wider audience. We plan only for a one- or two-day symposium within this period plus time for the GAs.

**Symposium Programme (character limit: 1500)**

Briefly describe the symposium programme, including any pre- or post-symposium workshops, training, early career activities, and other coordinated events

**Symposium on Socio-Ecological Digital Twins for Marine Management**

**Theme:** Advancing Decision-Support Tools for Sustainable Ocean Governance

**Day 1: Scientific Advances & Regional Applications**

- **Opening Remarks & Keynote** (*UN Ocean Decade DITTO Representative*)
- **Session 1: Innovations in Socio-Ecological Digital Twin Models**
  - Graph Theory, Bayesian AI & Participatory Modelling (*ECOTWIN, SEADOTs, SURIMI*)
- **Session 2: Regional Case Studies & ICES Relevance**
  - Offshore Wind & Fisheries (*ICES WGOWDF*)
  - Marine Spatial Planning (*WGMPCZM*)
  - Coastal Socio-Ecological Systems (*SEADITO*)
- **Special Session: Collaboration with ICES & UN Decade Programs** (*DITTO, Marine Life 2030, ICES WGs*)
- **Poster Session & Networking Reception**

**Day 2: Policy, Stakeholder Engagement & ECOPs**

- **Session 3: Digital Twins for Science-Policy Interface** (*EU Mission Ocean, Decision-Support Tools*)

- **Special Session: ECOPs & Capacity Building** (*Training, DTO Access, Career Opportunities*)
- **Final Roundtable: Future Directions in Digital Twin Ocean Science**
- **Closing Remarks & Next Steps**

This symposium strengthens **ICES collaborations**, **aligns with UN Ocean Decade priorities**, and **empowers early-career scientists** to co-design next-generation **marine socio-ecological models**.

**Acronym[s] of ICES Working Groups, Strategic Initiatives, Steering Groups, Operational Groups, and other groups contributing to the symposium (optional)**

Working Group on Marine Planning and Coastal Zone Management (WGMPCZM),

Working Group on Offshore Wind Development and Fisheries (WGOWDF),

Working Group on Social and Economic Dimensions of Aquaculture (WGSEDA)

WKWIND - Workshop to develop guidelines on how to approach the ecological, economic and social trade-offs between offshore renewable energy developments (wind farms) and fisheries

DITTO Digital Twins of the Ocean UN Decade program

**Contributions by ICES representatives (character limit: 1500)**

It is expected that scientists affiliated to ICES working groups and Secretariat professional staff are included in the scientific steering committee and represented in the organizing committee of co-sponsored symposia and, where necessary, for endorsement-only symposia (see Section 2.1, [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#)).

Please provide the following additional information: How will ICES representatives contribute to the planning and organization of the symposium? Members of the ICES community may, for instance, act as conveners or session chairs; serve on the planning board, scientific committee, or organizing committees; and assist with the selection of plenary speakers, awards recipients, or early career support.

Additionally, if ICES representatives are already involved in the symposium, please provide this information.

ICES is a project partner in one of the sibling projects (SEADOTs) and will be closely involved in the planning of this symposium hence the ICES PO is already embedded. ICES tasks are within training and policy outreach which is well-aligned with the proposed program.

We welcome ICES support in any role that is feasible and suggested above: conveners or session chairs; serve on the planning board, scientific committee, or organizing committees; and assisting with the selection of plenary speakers, awards recipients, or early career support.

We would be very grateful for endorsement of the proposed symposium by ICES, as well as sponsorship and organisational support for participation of Early Career Ocean Professionals ECOPs.

**Resource Request (character limit: 1500)**

Before completing this section, conveners should read the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#); particularly sections 1.2 and 1.3, which outline the types of financial, coordination, and technical support that ICES can provide. The support options depend on whether you are seeking ICES co-sponsorship or only its endorsement.

Please list all items requested of ICES in support of the symposium. Include specifics of any financial request, assistance with early career support applications, symposium registration, advertising, website, plans to use the ICES logo, etc. Clearly identify and describe requests that will require ICES Secretariat to commit time and staff – e.g., coordination, meeting documents, agenda, programmes, technical support, on-site participation, etc. – so ICES can accurately assess its ability to fulfil the requests.

We would like ICES to assistance with advertising. We plan to use the ICES logo in our promotion of the symposium and would appreciate ICES staff for any help with planning and organising the event.

Specifically, we ask for:

- To promote the symposium via website news and social media posts.
- To permit use of the ICES logo on all symposium documentation and advertising

**Additional Funding Sources/Sponsors (character limit: 1500)**

List all current, pending, and to-be-requested support from other sources: businesses, universities, national funds, etc. Please note that no information on funding is needed for endorsement-only requests.

Venue and catering will be paid through the EU project budgets.

We will try to secure additional support from the EU but since there is project funding, we are not optimistic for a positive outcome. We might seek funding through our DITTO community as well and are currently in the process of being endorsed as a separate action that combined the four sibling projects under the UN Decade.

**Plans for Publication of the Proceedings**

Specify potential publication outlet[s] below. For specific information on publishing proceedings in the ICES Journal of Marine Science (IJMS), refer to section 2.5 and Annex 4 of [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#).

Publication intended (specify):

No publication intended

## General Information

### Resolution Status (select one)

**New resolution**

This resolution has not been previously approved by the Advisory Committee (ACOM), Science Committee (SCICOM), and/or ICES Council

**Amendment to an approved resolution**

This is a change to a currently active resolution that has been approved previously. Common amendments include changes to conveners, updates to symposium dates or venue, and term extensions following unavoidable delays.

### One-Sentence Summary (character limit: 280)

Describe the main purpose of this resolution in plain language that can be readily understood by non-experts. Use the active voice and avoid jargon. This summary will be used on the ICES website and social media channels.

The symposium advances the integration of socio-ecological models into Digital Twin Oceans to enhance marine spatial planning, policy-making, and sustainability, fostering collaboration between ICES, UN Ocean Decade programs, policymakers, industry, and early-career scientists.

### ICES Advisory Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)

**Priority 1:** Sharing evidence

**Priority 2:** Highlighting benefits

### ICES Science Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)

**Priority 1:** Sea and society

**Priority 2:** Impacts of human activities

### Additional Comments (character limit: 500) (optional)

Restrict comments to those that are required to understand and review this resolution and for which there is no existing box on the form (e.g. request for a special resolution term duration)

The ICES Advisory Plan 2025, published at [https://issuu.com/icesdk/docs/ices\\_advisory\\_plan\\_2025](https://issuu.com/icesdk/docs/ices_advisory_plan_2025), states 'Building capacity and resilience' and 'Ecosystem and climate-informed actionable advice' as priority areas. While we could not choose these from the drop down menus above, we strongly believe that these are the fundamental priorities that fit our symposium best.

**Geographic Focus (select at least one)** **Non-Geospecific**

Select this option when the resolution is not closely focused on a specific geographic region. For instance, symposia focused on techniques or processes typically fall under 'non-geospecific'.

<b>ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions</b>	<b>Areas outside ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Adriatic Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Aegean-Levantine Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Ocean <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northeast (FAO area 27) <input type="checkbox"/> Azores <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Baltic Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Barents Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast <input type="checkbox"/> Black Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Celtic Seas <input type="checkbox"/> Faroes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greater North Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Greenland Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Icelandic Waters <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ionian Sea and the Central Mediterranean Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Norwegian Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Oceanic Northeast Atlantic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Western Mediterranean Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Sea (FAO area 18) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Antarctic (FAO area 48) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Eastern Central (FAO area 34) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northwest (FAO area 21) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southeast (FAO area 47) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southwest (FAO area 41) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Western Central (FAO area 31) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Antarctic and Southern (FAO area 58) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Eastern (FAO area 57) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Western (FAO area 51) <input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean and Black Sea (FAO area 37) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Antarctic (FAO area 88) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Eastern Central (FAO area 77) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northeast (FAO area 67) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northwest (FAO area 61) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southeast (FAO area 87) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southwest (FAO area 81) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Western Central (FAO area 71)

**Close Links to Other Organizations (where relevant)**

Select scientific cooperation, agreements, partnerships, or other close links from the list below. Other links can be specified at the bottom of this table, but please restrict your list to pertinent organizations that are closely associated with this resolution.

**No close links to other organizations**

#### **United Nations Organizations and Programmes**

- European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- International Sea bed Authority (ISA)
- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- UN Environment (UNEP)
- UN Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC)

#### **European Commission and its Agencies**

- European Commission (EC)
- European Environment Agency (EEA)
- European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)
- Joint Research Council (JRC)
- Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs)
- Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT)

#### **Regional Fisheries Organisations and Management Organizations (RFOs/RFMOs)**

- General Fisheries Commission in the Mediterranean (GFCM)
- International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
- North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO)
- North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)
- Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)

#### **Regional Sea Conventions**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)
<b>Arctic Networks</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)
<input type="checkbox"/> International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)
<input type="checkbox"/> Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment Working Group (PAME)
<b>Scientific Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM)
<input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO)
<input type="checkbox"/> North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)
<b>Other</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> European Aquaculture Society (EAS)
<input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Marine Biosphere Research project (IMBeR)

Other organizations not listed above (if relevant)	
UN Decade for Ocean Science	
Norwegian Offshore Wind	
Innovation Norway	

## ICES Secretariat to complete the information below

<b>Unique Identifier</b>
Include the auto-generated identifier when the <u>approved</u> resolution is added to the resolution database
2025/SYM/SCICOM05

<b>Resolution Parent (select one)</b>
---------------------------------------

Symposia should generally select SCICOM
SCICOM

<b>Professional Officer (if relevant)</b>	<b>Supporting Officer (if relevant)</b>
Harald Hasler-Sheetal	Alondra Sofia Rodriguez

## 9th International Symposium on Deep-Sea Corals (9ISDSC) (2–6 November 2026)

### Resolution Form: Symposium



Before completing this resolution form, please review the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#). Once approved, all resolution information on this form will be made publicly available on the ICES website.

<b>Resolution Term (yyyy-mm-dd)</b>	
Start date is date of submission of the resolution form. End date is December 31 of the symposium year.	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2025-01-31	<b>End Date:</b> 2026-12-31

<b>Symposium Title (character limit: 280)</b>
9th International Symposium on Deep-Sea Corals (9ISDSC)

<b>Symposium Conveners (maximum 5 individuals)</b>			
<b>Full Name</b>	<b>Institute</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Country</b>
Andrea Gori	Universitat de Barcelona	gori@ub.edu	Spain
Covadonga Orejas	Instituto Español de Oceanografía – Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas	cova.orejas@ieo.csic.es	Spain
Elisenda Pasto Codina	Biodiversity Research Institute	irbio@ub.edu	Spain

**Symposium Website URL (if known)**

Not yet available.

**Scientific Justification (character limit: 1500)**

Describe the aims, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of the symposium and the relevance of the symposium to the ICES [Science](#), [Advisory](#), and/or [Strategic](#) Plans

We are delighted to organize the next International Symposium on Deep-Sea Corals (9<sup>TH</sup> ISDSC) in 2026 in

Barcelona. This is the first time that this international event takes place in the Mediterranean Sea. This edition of the Symposium will build on the previous experiences and at the same time aims to generate new

spaces and avenues to strengthen the links among scientific disciplines, arts and citizens.

Deep-Sea Corals are fairly unknown to most people but widespread in our seas and oceans, including the

Mediterranean Sea, and extremely relevant for the functioning of marine ecosystems. Also, they are magnificent and beautiful as terrestrial forests. Therefore, Corals are objects of study for science, but also a

source of inspiration for artists. Nature is part of us, and we are part of nature, hence preserving these ecosystems and contemplating the life they harbour is also part of our well-being, just as when we contemplate mountains, forests and beaches.

Unfortunately, the fate of our planet, due to our insatiable need for resources, is not looking great and Deep-Sea Corals, which are part of the so called Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs), as all other living

creatures, are suffering the reduction of their habitats. However, most people are not aware of this situation. Deep-Sea Corals are somehow invisible to us, as they inhabit the depths of the oceans.

The 9<sup>TH</sup> ISDSC would like to conjure the scientific know-how, the beauty of nature and the power of art to visualize these hidden ecosystems and engage scientists, artists and citizens to achieve a common goal: make Deep-Sea Corals present in the imagination of people and raise awareness of the importance of preserving the ecosystems they build.

Several of the ICES Science Plan priorities are highly relevant for the 9<sup>TH</sup> ISDSC, remarkably “Ecosystem Science”, “Observation and Exploration” and “Conservation and Management Science”. Further the topics

“Identifying needs” as well as “Evolving advice” included in the OCES Advisory Plan are also important aspects for the 9<sup>TH</sup> ISDSC.

<b>Symposium Dates (yyyy-mm-dd)</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2026-11-02	<b>End Date:</b> 2026-11-06

<b>Venue</b> (e.g. conference centre, hotel)	<b>Format</b> (in-person, virtual, hybrid)	<b>Expected Number of Participants</b>
Historical Building of the Universitat de Barcelona	In-person	300

<b>City/Town</b>	<b>Country</b>
Barcelona	Spain

<b>Comments on dates, timeline, venue, location, and participants (character limit: 500)</b>
<p>For example, if any of the symposium details are tentative, provide potential timeline dates (month/year of abstract submission, registration, etc.), expected duration (number of days), venue[s] and location[s] under consideration</p>
<p>This is the first time that this international event will take place in the Mediterranean Sea</p> <p>The venue will take place in the city of Barcelona, at the Historical Building of the University of Barcelona</p> <p>located downtown and well connected.</p> <p>The location is easy to arrive for participants and for any citizen interested in the associated exhibition.</p> <p>The dates are confirmed: 5 days, from 2nd november to 6th november 2026.</p> <p>Abstract submission will open in January 2026. Registration will open in April 2026.</p>

<b>Symposium Programme (character limit: 1500)</b>
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Briefly describe the symposium programme, including any pre- or post-symposium workshops, training, early career activities, and other coordinated events

This edition of the Symposium will build on the previous experiences and, at the same time aims to generate new spaces and avenues to strengthen the links among scientific disciplines, arts and citizens.

This will be a five full-day symposium. Each morning will open with an invited keynote presentation introducing the theme of the day. Five themes will be addressed in the symposium, one each day (9 – 19h):

2nd Nov – Diversity and Distribution

3rd Nov – Environmental Settings

4th Nov – Transdisciplinary Knowledge

5th Nov – Biology and Ecology

6th Nov – Conservation

Each day, 12 oral presentations will follow the keynote during the morning (including a coffee break) and 8

oral presentations in the afternoon. After lunch break, the poster section will follow with presentations of 20 posters related to the day's theme (posters will be replaced every day) accompanied by finger-food and

beverages to support discussion of posters. This organization will result in a total of 5 keynote, 100 oral and

100 poster presentations. ICES representatives will be involved in the selection of key notes and presenters.

Other activities: The 9<sup>TH</sup> ISDSC would like to conjure the scientific know-how, the beauty of nature and the

power of art to visualize these hidden ecosystems and engage scientists, citizens and artists to achieve a

common goal: make Deep-Sea Corals present in the imagination of people and gain/raise/rise/increase

awareness of the importance of preserving the ecosystems they build. We will work with international artists and schools of art from Barcelona to develop an ART-SCIENCE exhibition in the hall of the UB historic

building recreating the Deep-Sea Coral ecosystems with visual projections, lights and sound and holographic

images if it's possible.

Themes such as “Transdisciplinary Knowledge” and “Conservation” will benefit from the contributions from

chairs or moderators of ICES WG members, specifically from the WG DEC and MHM. The convener Dr. Gori

and Dr. Orejas are already in contact with members of these two groups to design the scope of these sessions.

#### **Acronym[s] of ICES Working Groups, Strategic Initiatives, Steering Groups, Operational Groups, and other groups contributing to the symposium (optional)**

One of the Symposium organisers, Dr. Covadonga Orejas, is part of the ICES Working Group on Deep-water

Ecology (WGDEC) since 2017. She would like to announce the Symposium within the group in the forthcoming meeting which will take place in Santander from the 24th to the 28th of March 2025.

Furthermore, we are in contact with members of the WG on Habitat Mapping (WGMHM) which is as well a

highly relevant topic for several of the topics considered in the Symposium program.

#### **Contributions by ICES representatives (character limit: 1500)**

It is expected that scientists affiliated to ICES working groups and Secretariat professional staff are included in the scientific steering committee and represented in the organizing committee of co-sponsored symposia and, where necessary, for endorsement-only symposia (see Section 2.1, [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#)).

Please provide the following additional information: How will ICES representatives contribute to the planning and organization of the symposium? Members of the ICES community may, for instance, act as conveners or session chairs; serve on the planning board, scientific committee, or organizing committees; and assist with the selection of plenary speakers, awards recipients, or early career support.

Additionally, if ICES representatives are already involved in the symposium, please provide this information.

As mentioned above, one of the conveners (Covadonga Orejas) is member of the ICES Working Group on Deep Water Ecosystems (WGDEC). She is already in contact with other members of WGDEC, as well as with other relevant WGs of ICES (specifically WGMHM) for the planning of the Symposium.

The WGDEC includes as a relevant topic Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs), therefore, members of WGDEC as well as members from the WGs mentioned above on Habitat Mapping (WGMHM) would be perfect session chairs for several of the planned sessions.

In the preliminary plans for the Symposium committees, members from WGs of ICES have already been considered as potential members of the organising and scientific committee, beside C. Orejas, as co-organiser of the Symposium, other scientists Marina Carreiro-Silva, Meri Bilan, Kerry Howell who are members of WGDEC, will be invited to join the Symposium organisation.

We would be delighted to count -whenever possible- with the presence of an ICES Secretariat representative joining the Organising Committee and participate, among other tasks, in selecting Early Career Scientists for ICES funding.

Thanks to ICES' financial support for early career researchers participating in the Symposium, they will have the opportunity to gain insight into -and actively engage - the work carried out by ICES. This involvement will highlight the importance of being part of ICES' Working Groups, Workshops, and other activities as a scientist.

**Resource Request (character limit: 1500)**

Before completing this section, conveners should read the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#) : particularly sections 1.2 and 1.3, which outline the types of financial, coordination, and technical support that ICES can provide. The support options depend on whether you are seeking ICES co-sponsorship or only its endorsement.

Please list all items requested of ICES in support of the symposium. Include specifics of any financial request, assistance with early career support applications, symposium registration, advertising, website, plans to use the ICES logo, etc. Clearly identify and describe requests that will require ICES Secretariat to commit time and staff – e.g., coordination, meeting documents, agenda, programmes, technical support, on-site participation, etc. – so ICES can accurately assess its ability to fulfil the requests.

1. Provision of ICES logo for use on symposium materials
2. Promoting the symposium through ICES social media channels

#### **Additional Funding Sources/Sponsors (character limit: 1500)**

List all current, pending, and to-be-requested support from other sources: businesses, universities, national funds, etc. Please note that no information on funding is needed for endorsement-only requests.

Universitat de Barcelona

Instituto Español de Oceanografía-Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas

Barcelona City Council

Deep-Sea Biology Society

Barcelona Zoo

Aquarium of Barcelona

Aquarium of Gijon

Aquarium Finisterrae

#### **Plans for Publication of the Proceedings**

Specify potential publication outlet[s] below. For specific information on publishing proceedings in the ICES Journal of Marine Science (IJMS), refer to section 2.5 and Annex 4 of [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#).

Publication intended (specify):

No publication intended

## **General Information**

#### **Resolution Status (select one)**

**New resolution**

This resolution has not been previously approved by the Advisory Committee (ACOM), Science Committee (SCICOM), and/or ICES Council

**Amendment to an approved resolution**

This is a change to a currently active resolution that has been approved previously. Common amendments include changes to conveners, updates to symposium dates or venue, and term extensions following unavoidable delays.

**One-Sentence Summary (character limit: 280)**

Describe the main purpose of this resolution in plain language that can be readily understood by non-experts. Use the active voice and avoid jargon. This summary will be used on the ICES website and social media channels.

The 9<sup>TH</sup> International Symposium of Deep-Sea Corals (ISDSC) aims to combine scientific expertise, the beauty of nature, and the power of art to bring these hidden ecosystems into the spotlight. By engaging scientists, artists, and citizens, the symposium seeks to achieve a common goal: to make Deep-Sea Corals a vivid part of public imagination and to raise awareness about the critical importance of preserving the ecosystems they support.

**ICES Advisory Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)**

**Priority 1:** Identifying needs

**Priority 2:** Evolving advice

**ICES Science Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)**

**Priority 1:** Ecosystem science

**Priority 2:** Conservation and management science

**Additional Comments (character limit: 500) (optional)**

Restrict comments to those that are required to understand and review this resolution and for which there is no existing box on the form (e.g. request for a special resolution term duration)

**Geographic Focus (select at least one)** **Non-Geospecific**

Select this option when the resolution is not closely focused on a specific geographic region. For instance, symposia focused on techniques or processes typically fall under 'non-geospecific'.

**ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions****Areas outside ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions**

Adriatic Sea

Arctic Sea (FAO area 18)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aegean-Levantine Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Ocean <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northeast (FAO area 27) <input type="checkbox"/> Azores <input type="checkbox"/> Baltic Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Barents Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast <input type="checkbox"/> Black Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Celtic Seas <input type="checkbox"/> Faroes <input type="checkbox"/> Greater North Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Greenland Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Icelandic Waters <input type="checkbox"/> Ionian Sea and the Central Mediterranean Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Norwegian Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Oceanic Northeast Atlantic <input type="checkbox"/> Western Mediterranean Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Antarctic (FAO area 48) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Eastern Central (FAO area 34) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northwest (FAO area 21) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southeast (FAO area 47) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southwest (FAO area 41) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Western Central (FAO area 31) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Antarctic and Southern (FAO area 58) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Eastern (FAO area 57) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Western (FAO area 51) <input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean and Black Sea (FAO area 37) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Antarctic (FAO area 88) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Eastern Central (FAO area 77) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northeast (FAO area 67) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northwest (FAO area 61) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southeast (FAO area 87) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southwest (FAO area 81) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Western Central (FAO area 71)
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**Close Links to Other Organizations (where relevant)**

Select scientific cooperation, agreements, partnerships, or other close links from the list below. Other links can be specified at the bottom of this table, but please restrict your list to pertinent organizations that are closely associated with this resolution.

**No close links to other organizations**

**United Nations Organizations and Programmes**

- European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International Sea bed Authority (ISA) <input type="checkbox"/> Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UN Environment (UNEP) <input type="checkbox"/> UN Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC)
<b>European Commission and its Agencies</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> European Commission (EC) <input type="checkbox"/> European Environment Agency (EEA) <input type="checkbox"/> European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joint Research Council (JRC) <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs) <input type="checkbox"/> Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT)

<b>Regional Fisheries Organisations and Management Organizations (RFOs/RFMOs)</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Fisheries Commission in the Mediterranean (GFCM) <input type="checkbox"/> International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) <input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) <input type="checkbox"/> North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) <input type="checkbox"/> Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)
<b>Regional Sea Conventions</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM) <input type="checkbox"/> Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)
<b>Arctic Networks</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) <input type="checkbox"/> International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) <input type="checkbox"/> Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment Working Group (PAME)
<b>Scientific Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM)

<input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO) <input type="checkbox"/> North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)
<b>Other</b> <input type="checkbox"/> European Aquaculture Society (EAS) <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Marine Biosphere Research project (IMBeR)

Other organizations not listed above (if relevant)	
OCEAN	
IUCN	
WWF	

**ICES Secretariat to complete the information below**

<b>Unique Identifier</b> Include the auto-generated identifier when the <u>approved</u> resolution is added to the resolution database
2025/SYM/SCICOM06

<b>Resolution Parent (select one)</b> Symposia should generally select SCICOM
SCICOM

Professional Officer (if relevant)	Supporting Officer (if relevant)
Sebastian Valanko	

International Conference on Harmful Algae (ICHA) 2027 (18–22 October 2027)

## Resolution Form: Symposium



Before completing this resolution form, please review the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#). Once approved, all resolution information on this form will be made publicly available on the ICES website.

### Resolution Term (yyyy-mm-dd)

Start date is date of submission of the resolution form. End date is December 31 of the symposium year.

**Start Date:** 2025-01-31

**End Date:** 2027-12-31

### Symposium Title (character limit: 280)

International Conference on Harmful Algae (ICHA) 2027

### Symposium Conveners (maximum 5 individuals)

Full Name	Institute	Email	Country
Christine Edwards	Robert Gordon University (RGU)	c.edwards@rgu.ac.uk	UK
Linda Lawton	RGU	l.lawton@rgu.ac.uk	UK
Keith Davidson	Scottish Association of Marine Sciences	Keith.Davidson@sams.ac.uk	UK
Eileen Bresnan	Marine Directorate	Eileen.Bresnan@gov.scot	UK
Dave Clarke	Marine Institute	Dave.Clarke@Marine.ie	Ireland

### Symposium Website URL (if known)

In progress

### Scientific Justification (character limit: 1500)

Describe the aims, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of the symposium and the relevance of the symposium to the ICES [Science](#), [Advisory](#), and/or [Strategic](#) Plans

Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) are a global problem and the majority of countries within the ICES area have experienced negative impacts from HABs on their aquaculture, fisheries and tourism industries.

The 22<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of Harmful Algae (ICHA 22) will be held in Aberdeen, UK in 2027. These conferences attract a global participation and report on the new problems faced by the HAB community, and the advances in research and management needed to tackle them to ensure sustainable use of the ocean. Participation from countries in the ICES area is high.

The global problem spans most ICES themes. Planned topics include:

HABs and climate change

HABs and Aquaculture

HABs and socioeconomics

Regional HABs (including the ICES area)

HABs and taxonomy

HABs and toxins

HABs and diversity

HABs and human health

HABs and early warning/mitigation (food security)

<b>Symposium Dates (yyyy-mm-dd)</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2027-10-18	<b>End Date:</b> 2027-10-22

<b>Venue</b> (e.g. conference centre, hotel)	<b>Format</b> (in-person, virtual, hybrid)	<b>Expected Number of Participants</b>
P & J Live	In person	700

<b>City/Town</b>	<b>Country</b>
Aberdeen	UK

<b>Comments on dates, timeline, venue, location, and participants (character limit: 500)</b>
For example, if any of the symposium details are tentative, provide potential timeline dates (month/year of abstract submission, registration, etc.), expected duration (number of days), venue[s] and location[s] under consideration
Dates confirmed

Abstracts will be open January 2027

### **Symposium Programme (character limit: 1500)**

Briefly describe the symposium programme, including any pre- or post-symposium workshops, training, early career activities, and other coordinated events

- The impact of phytoplankton blooms on farmed fish health
- Monitoring and modelling for HABs prediction – the state of play
- HABs and global aquaculture – future-proofing the sector
- Sensing, imaging, AI, data and machine learning – the future of HABs management
- The impact of phytoplankton blooms on shellfish production
- Mitigation methods: how to prevent or reduce the harmful effects of algal blooms (case studies could include upwelling/air bubble mitigation, e.g. trials completed by BIM in Ireland)
- Diagnostic methods (Christine E. will be able to provide expertise)
- HABs and taxonomy
- HABs and toxin production
- HABs and climate change
- Regional HAB events
- The socio-economic aspects of HABs
- HABs and human health
- 

We will also have an industry day and workshops are likely but not yet planned.

Additional initiatives:

- Skills & training: SAIC has recently succeeded in drawing down funding from Defra for a major two-year training programme in sector-wide, standardised monitoring of harmful algal blooms. The collaborative programme – incorporating partners like SAMS and Lantra – aims to train around 1,800 sector professionals and students. We think this course would make an interesting case study for the event.
- 
- It would also be good to get MSc and PhD students from the relevant degree programmes involved: to provide secretariat, take part in poster competitions, or receive grants to attend the conference.
- 
- Student workshops/conference: To drive more students, a dedicated student workshop/event will take place at the congress, and a drive to promote the subject area to drive a new generation to work in the industry.

The IOC Intergovernmental Panel for HABs operates via a number of Task Teams. These task teams frequently use ICHA as a forum to meet and present their work to the global HAB scientific community. It is anticipated that there will be workshops about initiatives under way in the global panel.

As this is a global conference, regional IOC HAB groups have the chance to meet and review activities and open to members of the conference.

ICHA conferences have an 'early career' workshop prior to the ICHA with mentor/mentee opportunities

**Acronym[s] of ICES Working Groups, Strategic Initiatives, Steering Groups, Operational Groups, and other groups contributing to the symposium (optional)**

This conference addresses all four pillars of the ICES strategic plan (advancing Ecosystem and understanding, essential data for science and advice, evidence for decision making and working together. This conference is directly relevant to the working groups and steering groups listed below;

Joint ICES/IOC Working Group on Harmful Algal Bloom Dynamics (WGHABD)

ICES WG Phytoplankton and Microbial Ecology (WG PME)

ICES WG Integrated Morphological and Molecular Techniques (WG IMT)

ICES Aquaculture Steering Group

ICES Ecosystem Processes and Dynamics Steering Group

ICES Human Activities, Pressures and Impacts Steering Group

ICES Ecosystem Approaches and Methods Steering Group

**Contributions by ICES representatives (character limit: 1500)**

It is expected that scientists affiliated to ICES working groups and Secretariat professional staff are included in the scientific steering committee and represented in the organizing committee of co-sponsored symposia and, where necessary, for endorsement-only symposia (see Section 2.1, [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#)).

Please provide the following additional information: How will ICES representatives contribute to the planning and organization of the symposium? Members of the ICES community may, for instance, act as conveners or session chairs; serve on the planning board, scientific committee, or organizing committees; and assist with the selection of plenary speakers, awards recipients, or early career support.

Additionally, if ICES representatives are already involved in the symposium, please provide this information.

ICES representatives will be part of local organising committee and it is expected that ICES participants will chair sessions and lead workshops. Members of the ICES-IOC WG HABD are members of the IOC Global HAB Scientific Steering Committee and thus ICES will have a direct influence in the scientific programme for the conference and production of scientific proceedings. ICES WG members are anticipated to participate and mentor student delegates and participate in award voting.

**Resource Request (character limit: 1500)**

Before completing this section, conveners should read the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#) : particularly sections 1.2 and 1.3, which outline the types of financial, coordination, and technical

support that ICES can provide. The support options depend on whether you are seeking ICES co-sponsorship or only its endorsement.

Please list all items requested of ICES in support of the symposium. Include specifics of any financial request, assistance with early career support applications, symposium registration, advertising, website, plans to use the ICES logo, etc. Clearly identify and describe requests that will require ICES Secretariat to commit time and staff – e.g., coordination, meeting documents, agenda, programmes, technical support, on-site participation, etc. – so ICES can accurately assess its ability to fulfil the requests.

ICES is requested to provide:

10,000 euros to support attendance of early career researchers

Use of logo on conference documentation

**31/03/2025**

SCICOM decided to grant an endorsement-only status to this symposium, which includes:

- Provision of ICES logo for use on symposium materials
- Promoting the symposium through ICES social media channels

In March 2026 SCICOM will reevaluate whether this symposium should be also granted a co-sponsorship, including 10.000 EUR for ECS support.

**20/03/2026**

SCICOM decided to grant full sponsorship which includes 10.000 EUR for ECS support (in addition to the previously agreed terms).

**Additional Funding Sources/Sponsors (character limit: 1500)**

List all current, pending, and to-be-requested support from other sources: businesses, universities, national funds, etc. Please note that no information on funding is needed for endorsement-only requests.

Majority of funding will be from conference fee and sponsorship – budget already in place along with risk plan.

Planned sponsors/exhibitors:

Lateral Dx, RS Aqua, SAIC, Waters, OTAQ, Pharmaq, Mowi, Vet Aqua, Varicon Aqua, Clear Water Sensors, CPI Equipment Inc, SalmoSim, Scottish Shellfish, Stingray, Xanthella, Enzo Life Sciences, Beacon Analytical Systems Inc, Algal Resources Collection, Cifga, Merck KgaA, Cytobuoy B.V., Beckman Coulter, Royal Society of Chemistry, IBioIC, Suez, Veolia, SEPA, Agilent, Thermofisher

**Plans for Publication of the Proceedings**

Specify potential publication outlet[s] below. For specific information on publishing proceedings in the ICES Journal of Marine Science (IJMS), refer to section 2.5 and Annex 4 of [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#).

- Publication intended (specify): Proceedings will be published in IOC Newsletter Harmful Algae News (now with DOI number and searchable index).
- No publication intended

**General Information****Resolution Status (select one)** **New resolution**

This resolution has not been previously approved by the Advisory Committee (ACOM), Science Committee (SCICOM), and/or ICES Council

 **Amendment to an approved resolution**

This is a change to a currently active resolution that has been approved previously. Common amendments include changes to conveners, updates to symposium dates or venue, and term extensions following unavoidable delays.

**One-Sentence Summary (character limit: 280)**

Describe the main purpose of this resolution in plain language that can be readily understood by non-experts. Use the active voice and avoid jargon. This summary will be used on the ICES website and social media channels.

The aim of this resolution is to provide support for early career researchers to participate in the International conference on harmful algae (ICHA) in 2027.

**ICES Advisory Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)**

**Priority 1:** Evolving advice

**Priority 2:** Incorporating innovation

**ICES Science Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)**

**Priority 1:** Seafood production

**Priority 2:** Observation and exploration

**Additional Comments (character limit: 500) (optional)**

Restrict comments to those that are required to understand and review this resolution and for which there is no existing box on the form (e.g. request for a special resolution term duration)

**Geographic Focus (select at least one)** **Non-Geospecific**

Select this option when the resolution is not closely focused on a specific geographic region. For instance, symposia focused on techniques or processes typically fall under 'non-geospecific'.

<b>ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions</b>	<b>Areas outside ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Adriatic Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Aegean-Levantine Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Ocean <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northeast (FAO area 27) <input type="checkbox"/> Azores <input type="checkbox"/> Baltic Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Barents Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast <input type="checkbox"/> Black Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Celtic Seas <input type="checkbox"/> Faroes <input type="checkbox"/> Greater North Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Greenland Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Icelandic Waters <input type="checkbox"/> Ionian Sea and the Central Mediterranean Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Norwegian Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Sea (FAO area 18) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Antarctic (FAO area 48) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Eastern Central (FAO area 34) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northwest (FAO area 21) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southeast (FAO area 47) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southwest (FAO area 41) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Western Central (FAO area 31) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Antarctic and Southern (FAO area 58) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Eastern (FAO area 57) <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Western (FAO area 51) <input type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean and Black Sea (FAO area 37) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Antarctic (FAO area 88) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Eastern Central (FAO area 77) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northeast (FAO area 67) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northwest (FAO area 61) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southeast (FAO area 87)

<input type="checkbox"/> Oceanic Northeast Atlantic	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southwest (FAO area 81)
<input type="checkbox"/> Western Mediterranean Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Western Central (FAO area 71)

**Close Links to Other Organizations (where relevant)**

Select scientific cooperation, agreements, partnerships, or other close links from the list below. Other links can be specified at the bottom of this table, but please restrict your list to pertinent organizations that are closely associated with this resolution.

**No close links to other organizations**

**United Nations Organizations and Programmes**

- European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- International Sea bed Authority (ISA)
- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- UN Environment (UNEP)
- UN Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC)

**European Commission and its Agencies**

- European Commission (EC)
- European Environment Agency (EEA)
- European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)
- Joint Research Council (JRC)
- Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs)
- Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT)

**Regional Fisheries Organisations and Management Organizations (RFOs/RFMOs)**

- General Fisheries Commission in the Mediterranean (GFCM)
- International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

<input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) <input type="checkbox"/> North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) <input type="checkbox"/> Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)
<b>Regional Sea Conventions</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)
<b>Arctic Networks</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) <input type="checkbox"/> International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) <input type="checkbox"/> Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment Working Group (PAME)
<b>Scientific Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM) <input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)
<b>Other</b> <input type="checkbox"/> European Aquaculture Society (EAS) <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Marine Biosphere Research project (IMBeR)

Other organizations not listed above (if relevant)	

**ICES Secretariat to complete the information below**

<b>Unique Identifier</b> Include the auto-generated identifier when the <u>approved</u> resolution is added to the resolution database
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2025/SYM/SCICOM07
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<b>Resolution Parent (select one)</b>
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Symposia should generally select SCICOM
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SCICOM
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<b>Professional Officer (if relevant)</b>	<b>Supporting Officer (if relevant)</b>
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Henn Ojaveer	Camilla Scharff-Olsen
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## Resolutions approved in 2024

Small Pelagic Fish: Key Resources for Social and Ecological Systems (4–8 May 2026)

### Resolution Form: Symposium

Before completing this resolution form, please review the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#). Once approved, all resolution information on this form will be made publicly available on the ICES website.



#### Resolution Term (yyyy-mm-dd)

Start date is date of submission of the resolution form. End date is December 31 of the symposium year.

**Start Date:** 2024-01-30

**End Date:** 2026-12-31

#### Symposium Title (character limit: 280)

Small Pelagic Fish: Key Resources for Social and Ecological Systems

#### Symposium Conveners

Full Name	Institute	Email	Country
Susana Garrido	IPMA	susana.garrido@ipma.pt	Portugal
Rebecca Asch	East Carolina University	Aschr16@ecu.edu	USA
Motomitsu Takahashi	FRA	takahamt@fra.affrc.go.jp	Japan
Salvador Lluch Cota	CIBNOR	slluch@cibnor.mx	Mexico
Marcelo Vasconcellos	FAO	marcelo.vasconcellos@fao.org	Italy
Chris Rooper	DFO	chris.rooper@dfo-mpo.gc.ca	Canada

#### Symposium Website URL (if known)

Not known yet. The two previous (2017, 2022) symposia websites are:

2017 – [2017 Pelagic Symposium - Scope - PICES](#)

2022 - [2022 Pelagic Symposium - Scope - PICES](#)

#### Scientific Justification (character limit: 1500)

Describe the aims, objectives, and anticipated outcomes of the symposium and the relevance of the symposium to the ICES [Science](#), [Advisory](#), and/or [Strategic](#) Plans

The Small Pelagic Fish Symposium (SPF) was established by ICES and PICES to re-initiate the global collaboration on this topic started by FAO in 1983. This will be the third symposium following successful meetings in Victoria (2017) and Lisbon (2022). This symposium, linked to an upcoming 2024 initiative involving FAO, focuses on the ecology and sustainable management of SPF, emphasizing their role in food security, economy, and socio-ecological systems. The 2022 symposium was endorsed by the UN Decade of Ocean Science for its focus on the science of sustainable

harvesting that advanced several Sustainable Development Goals. We anticipate a similar endorsement for this 2026 symposium. Based on trends in attendance, we expect about 400 participants from all countries that heavily rely (commercially and/or culturally) on small pelagic fish. Similar to 2022, we expect over 300 contributions, with select works published in peer-reviewed journals such as CJFAS and MEPS. Essential for the [ICES Science Plan](#), the SPF addresses questions in ecosystem science, human impacts, emerging technologies, seafood production, conservation, and societal interaction. It supports the [ICES Advisory Plan](#) by focusing on credible, ecosystem-based management and aligns with the [ICES strategic goal](#) of advancing ecosystem understanding, essential data collection, and evidence-based decision-making.

Symposium Dates (yyyy-mm-dd)	
<b>Start Date:</b> 2026-05-04	<b>End Date:</b> 2026-05-08

Venue (e.g. conference centre, hotel)	Format (in-person, virtual, hybrid)	Expected Number of Participants
La Paz	In-person	375

City/Town	Country
La Paz	Mexico

**Comments on dates, timeline, venue, location, and participants (character limit: 500)**

For example, if any of the symposium details are tentative, provide potential timeline dates (month/year of abstract submission, registration, etc.), expected duration (number of days), venue[s] and location[s] under consideration

The Symposium will take place in La Paz, México. Local hosts (CIBNOR) have already started exploring venues. WGSPF is meeting in La Paz in February 2024 to plan for the symposium. Expected dates for the symposium are Spring (May) 2026 and last for 5 days. The tentative schedule is:

Call for workshops: September 2024, deadline Jan 2025.

Abstract submission: May 2025, closing November 2025.

Early Registration: May 2025, closing November 2025.

**Symposium Programme (character limit: 1500)**

Briefly describe the symposium programme, including any pre- or post-symposium workshops, training, early career activities, and other coordinated events

The program will be similar to those in 2017 and 2022, comprising one day of workshops and four days of plenary presentations. Based on past editions and nearly 400 attendees, we anticipate 5-8 Topic Sessions and 3-6 workshops, scheduled before or after the Sessions. Workshops will encompass both training and theoretical approaches. Activities for early career participants, including mentorship by scientific and industry professionals, will be coordinated. Each Workshop and Topic Session will be led by 3-5 convenors, selected based on a balance in expertise, gender, and geographical representation. Invited speakers for each session and workshop will also be chosen following these criteria. Funding will be secured for some speakers, adhering to these selection rules. The program will particularly emphasize the role of small pelagic fish and fisheries in the food supply system. Poster Sessions will be held for at least two days following the Topic Sessions. A final

plenary session will include a panel discussion with high-level experts. The focus of all sessions will be to facilitate active interaction, exchange and debate.

**Acronym[s] of ICES Working Groups, Strategic Initiatives, Steering Groups, Operational Groups, and other groups contributing to the symposium (optional)**

WGSPF, SICCME, HUDISG, various groups working on assessment and science of pelagic fisheries targets (e.g. HAWG, WGHANSA, WGNAM)

**Contributions by ICES representatives (character limit: 1500)**

It is expected that scientists affiliated to ICES working groups and Secretariat professional staff are included in the scientific steering committee and represented in the organizing committee of co-sponsored symposia and, where necessary, for endorsement-only symposia (see Section 2.1, [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#)).

Please provide the following additional information: How will ICES representatives contribute to the planning and organization of the symposium? Members of the ICES community may, for instance, act as conveners or session chairs; serve on the planning board, scientific committee, or organizing committees; and assist with the selection of plenary speakers, awards recipients, or early career support.

Additionally, if ICES representatives are already involved in the symposium, please provide this information.

A representative from the ICES Secretariat will be on the symposium steering committee. Two appointed ICES members will form part of the 5 symposium conveners, the other ones being represented by PICES and FAO organizations. ICES conveners will be responsible of a just representation of the ICES community within sessions and workshops, so that ICES is well represented within Chairs, organizing committees and in general all activities of the symposium.

**Resource Request (character limit: 1500)**

Before completing this section, conveners should read the [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#): particularly sections 1.2 and 1.3, which outline the types of financial, coordination, and technical support that ICES can provide. The support options depend on whether you are seeking ICES co-sponsorship or only its endorsement.

Please list all items requested of ICES in support of the symposium. Include specifics of any financial request, assistance with early career support applications, symposium registration, advertising, website, plans to use the ICES logo, etc. Clearly identify and describe requests that will require ICES Secretariat to commit time and staff – e.g., coordination, meeting documents, agenda, programmes, technical support, on-site participation, etc. – so ICES can accurately assess its ability to fulfil the requests.

ICES co-sponsorship is requested. The Symposium is primarily coordinated and organized by ICES-PICES and FAO. PICES and FAO already expressed their support and willingness to provide funding for different matters, including technical support. As in the previous two symposia, a coordinated effort will be made to maximize the capacity of symposium organisation and invitation of attendees and speakers from less favoured countries. We request financial support for early

career scientists for 10 000 Euros. In the 2022 Lisbon symposium we managed to attract 44% of ECS, many of which were supported by ICES, PICES and FAO.

#### **Additional Funding Sources/Sponsors (character limit: 1500)**

List all current, pending, and to-be-requested support from other sources: businesses, universities, national funds, etc. Please note that no information on funding is needed for endorsement-only requests.

Expected contributors, as in the 2022 Lisbon SPF symposium will include primary organizations involved in the symposium, specifically PICES and FAO. We also expect collaboration from co-organizers, to be confirmed, which in the last edition involved DPPO, DFO, GFCM, IRD, MOF, NIOZ, NOAA Fisheries, NPAFC, NPFC, NPRB, SCOR and IFFO.

#### **Plans for Publication of the Proceedings**

Specify potential publication outlet[s] below. For specific information on publishing proceedings in the ICES Journal of Marine Science (IJMS), refer to section 2.5 and Annex 4 of [ICES Symposium Guidelines for Conveners](#).

- Publication intended (specify):  
 No publication intended

## **General Information**

#### **Resolution Status (select one)**

**New resolution**

This resolution has not been previously approved by the Advisory Committee (ACOM), Science Committee (SCICOM), and/or ICES Council

**Amendment to an approved resolution**

This is a change to a currently active resolution that has been approved previously. Common amendments include changes to conveners, updates to symposium dates or venue, and term extensions following unavoidable delays.

#### **One-Sentence Summary (character limit: 280)**

Describe the main purpose of this resolution in plain language that can be readily understood by non-experts. Use the active voice and avoid jargon. This summary will be used on the ICES website and social media channels.

The 2026 ICES-PICES-FAO Small Pelagic Fish Symposium in La Paz, Mexico, titled 'Small Pelagic Fish: Key Resources for Social and Ecological Systems,' will showcase cutting-edge advancements in the ecology and sustainable management of Small Pelagic Fish, underscoring their critical role in human and ecological systems.

#### **ICES Advisory Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)**

**Priority 1:** Sharing evidence

**Priority 2:** Identifying needs

#### **ICES Science Plan Priorities (select up to two if relevant to this resolution)**

**Priority 1:** Seafood production

**Priority 2:** Conservation and management science

**Additional Comments (character limit: 500) (optional)**

Restrict comments to those that are required to understand and review this resolution and for which there is no existing box on the form (e.g. request for a special resolution term duration)

**Geographic Focus (select at least one)** **Non-Geospecific**

Select this option when the resolution is not closely focused on a specific geographic region. For instance, symposia focused on techniques or processes typically fall under 'non-geospecific'.

ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions	Areas outside ICES Ecoregions and Adjacent Ecoregions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adriatic Sea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aegean-Levantine Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Ocean <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northeast (FAO area 27) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Azores <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Baltic Sea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barents Sea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Black Sea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Celtic Seas <input type="checkbox"/> Faroes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greater North Sea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greenland Sea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Icelandic Waters <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ionian Sea and the Central Mediterranean Sea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Norwegian Sea <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oceanic Northeast Atlantic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Western Mediterranean Sea	<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Sea (FAO area 18) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Antarctic (FAO area 48) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Eastern Central (FAO area 34) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Northwest (FAO area 21) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southeast (FAO area 47) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Southwest (FAO area 41) <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic, Western Central (FAO area 31) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Antarctic and Southern (FAO area 58) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Eastern (FAO area 57) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indian Ocean, Western (FAO area 51) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean and Black Sea (FAO area 37) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Antarctic (FAO area 88) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Eastern Central (FAO area 77) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northeast (FAO area 67) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Northwest (FAO area 61) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southeast (FAO area 87) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Southwest (FAO area 81) <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific, Western Central (FAO area 71)

**Close Links to Other Organizations (where relevant)**

Select scientific cooperation, agreements, partnerships, or other close links from the list below. Other links can be specified at the bottom of this table, but please restrict your list to pertinent organizations that are closely associated with this resolution.

 **No close links to other organizations**

<p><b>United Nations Organizations and Programmes</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> European Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Advisory Commission (EIFAAC)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Maritime Organization (IMO)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Sea bed Authority (ISA)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> UN Environment (UNEP)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UN Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization – Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC)</p>
<p><b>European Commission and its Agencies</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> European Commission (EC)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> European Environment Agency (EEA)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Joint Research Council (JRC)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT)</p>

<p><b>Regional Fisheries Organisations and Management Organizations (RFOs/RFMOs)</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Fisheries Commission in the Mediterranean (GFCM)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)</p>
<p><b>Regional Sea Conventions</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)</p>
<p><b>Arctic Networks</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment Working Group (PAME)</p>
<p><b>Scientific Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)</p>
<p><b>Other</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> European Aquaculture Society (EAS)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integrated Marine Biosphere Research project (IMBeR)</p>

<b>Other organizations not listed above (if relevant)</b>	


**ICES Secretariat to complete the information below**

**Unique Identifier**

Include the auto-generated identifier when the approved resolution is added to the resolution database

2024/SYM/SCICOM04

**Resolution Parent (select one)**

Symposia should generally select SCICOM

SCICOM

**Professional Officer (if relevant)**

Chris Lynam

**Supporting Officer (if relevant)**

Ena Briesemeister